

## ATO, Roots Engage In Roofdeck Scuffle

By Brian Loux, Shankar Mukherji, and Jennifer Young  
STAFF REPORTERS

Racially charged language sparked a physical altercation last Friday between members of the hip-hop band The Roots and the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

At a meeting held yesterday, Senior Associate Dean Robert M. Randolph said that ATO has been suspended by the administration pending a resolution of the conflict. Furthermore, two members of ATO have been suspended from the fraternity.

Under a preliminary agreement between the administration and ATO, the fraternity will undergo sensitivity training and sponsor a campus symposium on cultural diversity during orientation. Additionally, the Interfraternity Council will report the incident to the Cambridge License Commission.

The incident began early in the afternoon as an unregistered party was held on the roofdeck of the ATO house in Cambridge.

Sometime around 5 p.m., members of the band The Roots were escorted to the ATO house. At this time, a brother on the roofdeck shouted a comment to the members of the band. Upon hearing this, female performer known as Jaguar,

or Jag, a guest performer with The Roots, proceeded to yell at the people on the roofdeck from the sidewalk. As the verbal argument continued, a member of the fraternity approached the edge of the deck and shouted an inflammatory comment to Jaguar.

An infuriated Jaguar then entered the house, grabbed a large spoon from the ATO kitchen, and ran up the stairs. She was closely followed by The Roots' lead rapper, known as Black Thought. Upon reaching the roofdeck, Jaguar reportedly threatened those present, asking for the identity of whom she had heard. "She was very angry," said Lorien M. Paulson '02, who was on the roofdeck at the time. "She shouted at everyone on the roofdeck, particularly ones near the ledge."

Soon thereafter, Black Thought appeared on the roofdeck, and more angry words were exchanged. Reports confirmed that the two groups traded curses.

Thereafter the situation quickly deteriorated into a physical scuffle as an ATO brother attempted to restrain the lead rapper of The Roots.

ATO President Erik M. Glover '02 said, "The scuffle involved four people, two from ATO and two from the Roots. No punches were



Assistant Dean Carol Orme-Johnson (center right) speaks with Jaguar (left, front) and members of the Roots outside of Alpha Tau Omega Friday afternoon.

thrown whatsoever ... one member stepped forward to restrain a member from the Roots and they became locked up."

The physical confrontation left an ATO brother with welt marks from Jaguar's spoon and with Black

Thought suffering a kick to the head. The fighting was broken up soon after it started. One member of The Roots and one member of ATO agreed to call 911. Emergency dispatch received the call at 5:57 p.m. The Cambridge emergency commu-

nications report states "there [are] weapons & 50 people involved," though no weapons were actually involved. Officers from the Cambridge police department arrived

ATO, Page 20

## ROTC Celebrates Pass in Review

This Year's Event Runs Smoothly, Fails to Draw Expected Protests



MIT Reserve Office Training Corps students parade in Briggs field as part of the Tri-service Presidential Pass in Review last Friday.

By Vicky Hsu  
STAFF REPORTER

The annual MIT Reserve Officer Training Corps Tri-service Presidential Pass in Review took place at Berry Field on Friday afternoon.

"This is one of the best conducted ceremonies I have ever attended," said retired U.S. Army Major Robert Winterhalter. Winterhalter praised "the discipline of the troops, the exactness of the communication between officers and staff, and the precision of the maneuvers."

The pass in review is a long-standing military tradition that began as a way for a newly assigned commander to inspect his troops. Visiting officers and guest speakers are also invited to review the troops.

"Each [military branch] hosts a lot of individual events. The tri-service ceremony brings all the services together as a military," said Melanie S. Woo '03, an Air Force ROTC cadet.

The guest speaker at this year's pass in review was retired U.S. Army Lieutenant General James Terry Scott, who gave a short speech on the field to commend and encourage the troops.

The ceremony went smoothly, with no materialization of a threat-

ROTC, Page 22

## Julia M. Carpenter

Julia M. Carpenter, a sophomore in chemical engineering, was found dead in her Random Hall dormitory room early Monday morning. She was 20 years old.

"Julie was definitely very outgoing and friendly, happy talking to people," said Matthew S. Cain '02, president of Random Hall. "Her death took us all completely by surprise."

Carpenter was a member of Alpha Chi Sigma (AXE), a professional chemistry fraternity. Last year, she rowed for the women's crew team.

AXE President Karla E. Maguire '01 described Carpenter as "a very vibrant person. ... She was always volunteering to do things, and she was always in a positive mood."

"She was very active and enthusiastic in our club," said AXE Treasurer Dan Lowrey '02. "We will miss her a lot."

Random Hall Housemaster Nina Davis-Millis said Carpenter had gone out for dim-sum on Sunday and attended a birthday party on the Random Hall roofdeck that evening.

"We were just stunned [by the news of Carpenter's death]," Davis-Millis said. "She was making plans for the summer. ... She was happy and filled with life."

"She always had something to say that would brighten up someone's day," said Jenny Lee '02, another member of AXE.

Carpenter's roommate found her unconscious on the floor of their room at about 2:30 a.m. Monday. Davis-Millis summoned Campus Police, who confirmed that Carpenter was dead. There were no signs of foul play, according to Campus Police. The Middlesex County Medical Examiner is scheduled to perform an autopsy to determine the cause of death.

Chief of Mental Health Service Peter Reich, along with counseling and support staff, met with Random Hall residents yesterday afternoon to answer questions and offer counseling.

A graduate of Stratford High School in Houston, Texas, Carpenter was an accomplished student and a talented musician who entertained nursing home residents with violin performances when she was in middle school.

Carpenter is survived by her parents, Timothy and Kay Carpenter, and her younger sister, Lindsay Ann Carpenter.



Julia M. Carpenter

MIT NEW STUDENT RECORD 1999



The Odyssey Ball was one highlight of Spring Week-end.

Page 14-15



Comics

Page 8

The Tech interviews GSC President-Elect Dilan A. Seneviratne.

Page 25

World & Nation ..... 2  
Opinion ..... 4  
Events Calendar ..... 11  
Arts ..... 16  
Sports ..... 28



# WORLD & NATION

## In Hollywood, Cautious Optimism over Labor Talks

THE WASHINGTON POST

LOS ANGELES

Meeting through the weekend and all day Monday ahead of a looming deadline, negotiators in Hollywood appeared to inch toward settling a labor dispute that threatens to idle much of the entertainment industry.

After months of dread and panic, there was increasing optimism that the studios and the Writers Guild of America would strike a deal before 12:01 a.m. PDT Wednesday, when the current contract setting salaries and working conditions for movie and television writers expires.

But there was little clear evidence to support the sunnier view, since neither the studios, represented by the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, nor the labor union has officially spoken to the media since talks resumed April 17.

The two sides have been arguing mainly over money; specifically, the level of residual payments that writers earn for work that appears in secondary outlets like cable, video, DVD and foreign markets. They're also arguing over limiting the use of the prestigious "a film by" credit for directors.

## Britain Moves to Ban Insurance Gene Tests

THE WASHINGTON POST

LONDON

Britain's government has tentatively endorsed a ban on genetic testing by insurance companies, hoping to prevent the emergence of a "genetic underclass" of people unable to buy health or life insurance.

The new policy would mean huge savings, in money and peace of mind, for people such as Caroline Lisher, 41, an executive in the London suburbs. After tests showed she had a gene associated with breast cancer, she was unable to buy life insurance. That, in turn, led to heavy additional expense when Lisher bought a home in 1995.

She wanted to take out a so-called endowment mortgage, a common formulation here in which the mortgage is backed by life insurance. But since the genetic evidence made her ineligible for insurance, she had to accept a more-expensive loan.

Laying out the government's first comprehensive policy on the genetics revolution, Alan Milburn, the health minister in Tony Blair's cabinet, said recently he would support a moratorium on the use of gene tests by insurance companies if a commission recommends it. The government's Human Genetics Commission is due to issue a report in May and industry observers are predicting it will call for such a ban.

## Ex-Klansman's Defense Ends in Church Bombing

THE WASHINGTON POST

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

The defense of former Ku Klux Klansman Thomas Blanton Jr. began and ended Monday with only two witnesses, as his attorney tried to persuade the jury that other white supremacists could have planted the bomb that killed four black girls in the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in 1963.

"We were trying to show there were other leads," said defense attorney John Robbins, outside the courtroom.

Blanton, 62, who did not take the stand, faces four counts of murder in the case that stands as an emblem of the 1960s civil rights movement and an enduring shame to this city, where it occurred. The victims — Carole Robertson, Cynthia Wesley, and Addie Mae Collins, all 14, and Denise McNair, 11 — were killed in the church basement as they prepared for Sunday-morning services.

The case is expected to go to the jury Tuesday.

# Bush Consults NATO Allies On Plans for Missile Defense

By Steven Mufson

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

President Bush phoned the leaders of four major allies and the secretary general of NATO yesterday to press forward with plans for missile defenses and to preview a speech he will deliver today arguing that deterrence is no longer enough to protect against possible nuclear attacks, senior administration officials said.

In his speech at the National Defense University, Bush will call the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty a figment of the past, without directly calling for its abrogation, a senior administration official said. He will also declare that the United States will explore all missile defense options — land, sea and space-based — to head off accidental launches as well as attacks and blackmail threats from rogue states.

The 1972 ABM treaty, which bans national missile defenses and has been a cornerstone of international arms control agreements, "doesn't describe the current world," said the official, "and will get in the way of our pursuing promising avenues before us."

At the same time, Bush will call

for consultations with Russia and China, and for cuts in the U.S. nuclear arsenal to the "lowest possible level," the official said.

Bush wants "to think in a new direction about how to protect the United States from rogue and accidental missile launch in the post-Cold War era," said White House spokesman Ari Fleischer. "His message to Russia is that the development of a missile defense system — so we can think beyond the confines of the Cold War era — is the best way to preserve the peace."

The speech is not expected to be much more specific about Bush's missile defense plans than an address he gave on the same topic nearly a year ago, during the presidential campaign. One official said some administration members felt there was little need for Tuesday's speech, seeing no point in fanning controversy before the administration has determined what kind of system it wants to build.

But another senior administration official said Bush wanted to "have real consultations" with allies, rather than present a plan as "a fait accompli." The official said "some real work has been done, but there are still some options as far as

the architecture (of the anti-missile system) goes."

Fleischer said Bush made a series of calls Monday, about 10 minutes each, to German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, French President Jacques Chirac, Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien, British Prime Minister Tony Blair and NATO Secretary General George Robertson "to begin the consultation process."

American "consultation teams" will go to Europe next week, and the administration hopes to move talks forward by June, when Bush is scheduled to attend a meeting of NATO leaders, or by July, when heads of the Group of Seven major industrial countries are to meet. "We would hope to have made substantial progress by then," the senior official said, "but there's no deadline."

The official added that, although talks will begin with Russian officials next week, "no one expects them to be excited" about the prospect of missile defense. It will take time for them "to make that mental shift" away from the ABM treaty and toward missile defense, the official said, briefing reporters on condition of anonymity.

# Indonesian President Censured

## Wahid May Face Impeachment Vote Over Corruption

By Rajiv Chandrasekaran

THE WASHINGTON POST

JAKARTA, INDONESIA

Legislators censured President Abdurrahman Wahid on Monday night for the second time this year, pushing Indonesia's first democratically elected leader in a generation closer to impeachment proceedings over his alleged incompetence and role in two corruption scandals.

The rebuke, supported by 363 members of the 500-seat parliament, likely will unleash a new round of political turmoil across the world's fourth most populous nation, escalating pressure on Wahid to resign or face legislators who have grown increasingly disenchanted with his

unorthodox leadership style.

"His political legitimacy, his social legitimacy and his moral legitimacy have vaporized," said A.M. Fatwa, deputy speaker of parliament. Wahid "is no longer suitable to lead this nation."

Officials had feared that the parliament's decision would trigger a violent outburst from tens of thousands of Wahid supporters who flooded into Jakarta in recent days and threatened to attack legislators supporting the rebuke. But Monday's vote occurred peacefully, with a rainstorm, barbed wire barriers and thousands of police officers deterring attempts at retribution.

About 3,000 Wahid backers, many toting bamboo sticks and pledging to die for the president, did march through the city Monday afternoon, but almost all were turned away before they reached the parliament complex.

Wahid, a nearly blind Muslim cleric, has been accused of failing to declare a \$2 million donation from the sultan of Brunei for aid to Aceh province and for his alleged involvement in the theft of \$4.1 million from the government's food distribution agency by people who claimed to be acting on his behalf, including his personal masseur. Although investigators have found no evidence that the president benefited personally from either scheme, they have become a catalyst for a growing frustration among legislators with Wahid's erratic behavior and his failure to reinvigorate the country's flagging economy.

The president has apologized for making mistakes but denied breaking the law. In a televised speech last week, he argued that "changing the president 100 times" will not solve Indonesia's myriad economic, political and social problems.

# WEATHER

## A Great Time to Be Outdoors

By Greg Lawson

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

It looks like a great week ahead with dry air and temperatures in the high 70s and low 80s, very few clouds, and light breezes.

We should give our thanks to the large high pressure system parked to our south and the benign upper level ridge positioned over the east coast. Together they are both maintaining the marvelous status quo and shielding us from potential nastiness brewing upstream. One particularly nasty storm has formed over north Minnesota, but it will thankfully be steered around us to our north by the ridge.

Temperatures yesterday reached 73°F (23°C) while the dew point stayed at 36°F (2°C) or below, yielding relative humidities less than 30 percent. This wonderfully warm, dry air will continue as the high pressure center stalls over North Carolina and remains parked the rest of the week.

Unfortunately, as all good things must come to an end, so must this week. It appears as though unsettled weather is due for Friday evening as our beloved high and ridge pass out to sea and are replaced with a slowly moving cold front. Look for rain and cooler temperatures, probably back down into the 60s (17–21°C).

### Extended Forecast

**Today:** Beautiful. Warm and dry with clear skies and a light westerly breeze. High of 77°F (25°C).

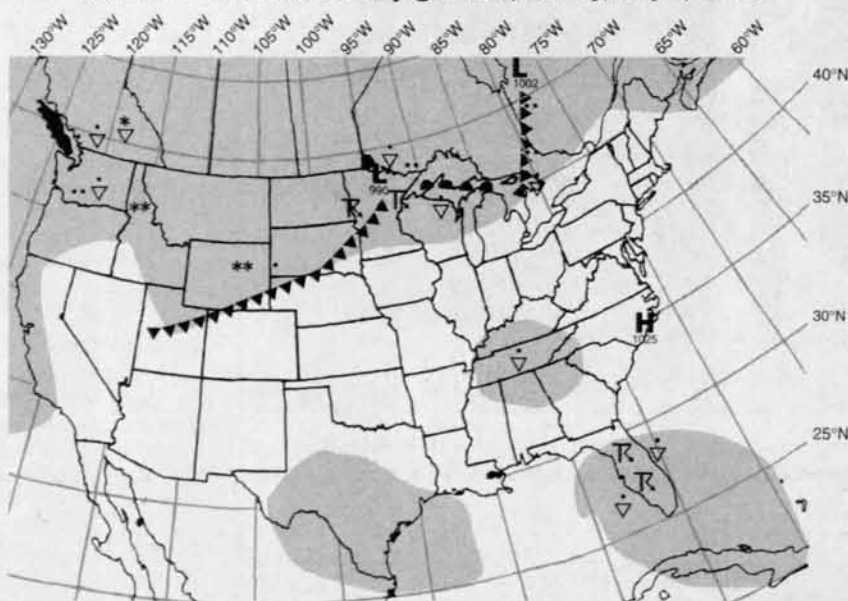
**Tonight:** Clear and cool. Winds shift to southerly and pick up a bit. Low of 57°F (14°C).

**Wednesday:** Magnificent. Hot and dry with mostly clear skies and light southwesterly winds. High of 83°F (28°C). Low of 58°F (14°C).

**Thursday:** Wonderful. More of the same but partly cloudy. High in the low 80s F (27–29°C). Low in the high 50s F (14–16°C).

**Friday and Beyond:** Expect rain and temperatures back down in the 60s F (high teens Celsius).

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Xxxday, May 1, 2001



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
<b>H</b> High Pressure	Trough	Snow	Fog
<b>L</b> Low Pressure	Warm Front	Rain	Thunderstorm
<b>S</b> Hurricane	Cold Front	Light	Haze
	Stationary Front	Moderate	
		Heavy	

Compiled by MET  
Meteorology Staff  
and The Tech



# Sudan, North Korea Cooperate But on Terrorism Sponsor List

By Alan Sipress  
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Sudan and North Korea have begun cooperating with the United States in fighting terrorist groups but have not yet done enough to be removed from a U.S. list of countries sponsoring terrorism, State Department officials said Monday.

The department's annual report on terrorism, made public Monday, says Sudan opened discussions on the issue with U.S. officials last year. The report also says Sudan agreed to sign international agreements on fighting terrorism and took domestic steps that reflected this new resolve.

"They've evidenced a serious

interest in getting out of the terrorism business. That's something we want to encourage," said Edmund J. Hull, the State Department's acting coordinator for counterterrorism.

The report says, however, that Sudan remains a safe haven for members of several terrorist groups, including Osama bin Laden's Al Qaeda organization, and has not fully complied with U.N. Security Council resolutions demanding that it end assistance to terrorists.

Hull reported a similarly mixed record for North Korea, which engaged in three rounds of talks with the United States last year that culminated in a statement opposing terrorism and agreeing to support international efforts against it. But

the annual State Department review also cites North Korea for harboring members of the Japanese Communist League-Red Army Faction, implicated in the 1970 hijacking of a Japanese airliner.

Barring more progress, Hull said, Sudan and North Korea would stay on the list of state sponsors of terrorism, which also includes Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Libya and Syria. The list has not changed since Sudan was added in 1993.

In assessing global terrorism, the report says the number of attacks last year increased eight percent over 1999, largely reflecting the repeated bombing of a multinational pipeline in Colombia by two guerrilla organizations.

## Settlement Approved In FBI Discrimination Case

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

A federal judge on Monday approved a sweeping settlement in a 10-year-old lawsuit between the FBI and about 500 current and former agents who claim they systematically were discriminated against because they are black.

The agreement requires the FBI to overhaul its promotion, evaluation and discipline procedures by 2004 to address the concerns of black agents. It also could result in the awarding of money damages to individual agents who prove to an outside mediator their claims of discrimination.

Black FBI agents, who supported their claims with statistical models, argued that white agents were much more likely to gain promotions, get high-profile assignments with units such as the SWAT team, earn positive evaluations and avoid disciplinary action for misconduct.

The FBI has condoned a dual-track system that "allowed people to be promoted based on who they knew and not how they did their job," David J. Shaffer, a Washington attorney who is representing the black agents, said in an interview.

"This goes all the way back to J. Edgar Hoover," the famed "G-man" who headed the FBI for nearly half a century until 1972, Shaffer said. "White people promoted people who were white, who promoted people who were white, and so on. ... Hopefully, this type of behavior will now be put behind us."

## Bush Taps Former Yale Classmate as Envoy to China

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Bush announced Monday that he will nominate Clark "Sandy" Randt Jr., a Hong Kong-based business lawyer and his one-time college fraternity brother, as the next U.S. ambassador to China.

A fluent Mandarin speaker, Randt earned a law degree at the University of Michigan after graduating from Yale. He served as U.S. commercial attaché in Beijing from 1982 to 1984 and is a partner in the New York law firm Shearman & Sterling.

He has "significant knowledge of China," said Nicholas Lardy, a China expert at the Brookings Institution. "Sandy Randt brings enormous experience in commercial, legal and business activity in Asia — a very important part of the bilateral relationship," Lardy added.

If confirmed by the Senate, Randt, 55, would succeed Joseph W. Prueher as ambassador. A former commander in chief of the U.S. Pacific Command, Prueher played a central role in winning the April 11 release of the 24 crew members of the U.S. reconnaissance plane that collided with a Chinese fighter jet and then landed on China's Hainan island.

# Tourist and Multimillionaire Tito Reaches Space Station on Monday

By Peter Baker  
THE WASHINGTON POST

KOROLYOV, RUSSIA

American multimillionaire Dennis Tito floated out of a Russian capsule through a tight airlock and into the International Space Station on Monday, beginning his \$20 million sight-seeing trip in the world's most distinctive vacation resort.

Like many first-time spacefarers, the 60-year-old investment fund manager from Los Angeles suffered from nausea and vomited during the two days it took to get to the station. But by the time he arrived, Tito looked hale and hearty again, displaying far more enthusiasm than he did when his Russian rocket took off Saturday.

"I don't know about this adaptation that they're talking about," he said from space, grinning. "I'm already adapted. I love space!"

Talgat Musabayev, commander of the Russian spacecraft that delivered Tito, testified that history's first paying space tourist was faring well. "He looks younger, maybe 10 years younger now."

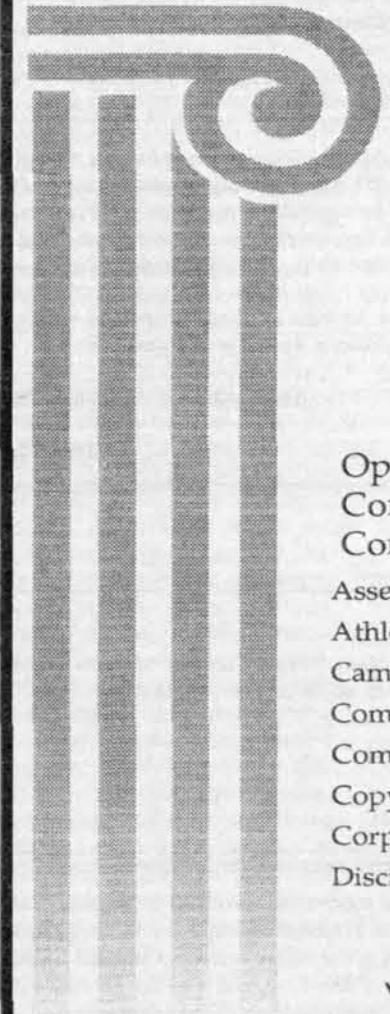
Tito's flight has attracted worldwide attention to the issue of space commercialization and fostered bitter tensions between the Russians and Americans over the right to use the international station as a draw for space tourism.

Although NASA complained that it was improper and possibly unsafe to unilaterally send a dilet-

tante to the station while it was still being built, the Russians maintained that wealthy customers such as Tito will provide desperately needed cash to hold up their end of the project.

The Soyuz TM-32 carrying Tito, Musabayev and cosmonaut Yuri Baturin docked with the space station 240 miles above the planet without a hitch and on schedule at 3:57 a.m. EDT. An hour and a half later, the hatch opened and the passengers disembarked. Tito in the middle, easing through with the help of a couple crew members who guided his weightless frame into the station.

For the next six days, he will be a passenger with certain restrictions.



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**General Council Meeting: Wednesday, May 2, 5:30pm 50-220**



# OPINION

## Real Problem, Excessive Solution

The incident last Friday between Alpha Tau Omega and The Roots was an embarrassing beginning to this year's Spring Weekend. Following a careless racial remark by an

### Editorial

ATO brother, two affiliates of the predominantly African-American band entered the fraternity, began threatening house residents, and engaged the brothers in a brief scuffle.

The ATO brother's taunt was without question tasteless and offensive. The prejudice he expressed runs counter to this campus's ideals of openness and tolerance. His conduct should not be supported or condoned, and his fraternity took an appropriate first step by considering sanctions against him.

While much attention has been given to the taunt, The Roots' entry into ATO's house and subsequent threatening behavior has received little recognition. The taunt provoked the encounter, but The Roots should have shown their maturity by ignoring the insensitive brother. Although the fraternity sparked the incident, it does not bear complete responsibility for the escalation, but rather shares responsibility with members of the group.

Given the nature of the escalation, the sanctions against ATO appear to be excessive. The mandate for ill-defined "sensitivity" training for the entire house, the requirement that ATO sponsor a cultural symposium during rush, the idea that the house cooperate with the Cambridge Police Department, and the restriction on

social activities at the house until Aug. 15 seem to indicate a knee-jerk reaction that serves to isolate and scapegoat the fraternity rather than address a systematic campus-wide problem.

To be sure, ATO does not have the best reputation for tolerance (most recently a brother was suspended for three terms for sending hate mail to a gay student), and the transgression committed by the ATO brother again reflects poorly on the entire house. At its heart, however, the remark was an individual act and does not imply that the rest of the house shares the same view. ATO is one of the more diverse houses, a stature it could not reach by practicing overt racism.

ATO's decision to self-impose sanctions is politically understandable, especially given the negative light in which the Cambridge License Commission will almost certainly view the incident. Even with the self-imposed sanctions, it is possible that the CLC will impose additional sanctions on the house, up to and including revocation of its lodging license. It is discouraging that ATO was forced to go extreme measures to placate the CLC and prevent further punishment over an individual act.

Without question, discussion about racism at MIT is necessary. Our campus does have a problem with racism, both in public and in private. This individual act and the accompanying sanctions, however, are not the vehicles for furthering this discussion.

*The Editorial Board reached its decision by a vote of 6-1.*

## Appropriate Solution, Progress is Promising

By Jordan Rubin

CHAIRMAN

The editorial board was correct in stating that Friday's incident at 405 Memorial Drive provided a terrible start to Spring Weekend. However, this author does not believe that the sanc-

### Dissent

tions against Alpha Tau Omega are destructive. Rather, ATO has taken the right step in aiming to improve the MIT community as a response to the altercation.

ATO, as an organization, has shown a great deal of responsibility since the confrontation. The fraternity has not attempted to evade all blame for the event. In suspending two of its members, ATO made a difficult decision. By offering to sponsor a symposium on cultural awareness, the brothers of ATO clearly show their willingness to put this unfortunate situation in the past. They have committed to work to prevent such altercations from recurring.

This writer does not believe that a member of The Roots and an affiliate are free of blame. However, members of ATO are also members of the MIT community, and as such we, as

members of the MIT community, should have expected them to respond. Our main concern as we proceed should be that the community is able to build from this episode.

ATO, in conjunction with minority leaders, student government officials, administrators, and the campus police, have crafted a plan to help MIT move beyond the incident. There are still details that need to be ironed out. However, labeling the preliminary description of the steps that ATO and campus officials have taken as "ill-defined" is not justified. This author believes that the individuals involved in crafting the plan will put a good faith effort towards moving forward from the incident.

In this situation, conflict resolution is working. ATO has proposed measures to improve the campus community. A healthy dialogue between a diverse group of leaders on campus has ensued. For these reasons, the Cambridge License Commission should not look to add punitive measures of its own. The MIT community will be best served if campus leaders are working together. Actions taken by the CLC can only create obstacles to the healing that the campus needs and add confusion as the campus community tries to move forward.

## Letters To The Editor

### An Apology From ATO

We, the brotherhood of Alpha Tau Omega, apologize for the events that occurred on and around our house on the afternoon of Friday, April 27.

To the members of The Roots, we offer our sincerest apologies for the incident. We acknowledge the embarrassment that this incident has brought to the MIT community and are working, both among ourselves and in conjunction with the leaders of the campus community, to demonstrate that this fraternity does not pro-

mote or tolerate what happened on Friday.

We apologize to all individuals offended by the words containing racial elements spoken from our roof. The statement in question was undeniably derisive, but it was not meant to be a personal attack. Still, as a racially diverse brotherhood on campus, the member should have known such a statement is very emotionally charged. We fully understand how the statement was construed as racially offensive. We apologize that these words from the mouth of one of our brothers could make anyone in

the MIT community uncomfortable or angry.

We have already begun taking judicial action against the members involved and are moving quickly to remove them from our membership. We express deep-seated sentiments to all in the MIT community and we look forward to doing our part to rectify this situation in a swift and fair manner.

The Brothers of Alpha Tau Omega

Letters, Page 7

## Errata

The name of the East Campus president given in Friday's article "Housing Lottery Strands Students" was incorrect. The current EC president is Jeffrey C. Barrett '02.

In Friday's article "Spring Weekend to Feature Many Events," several of the winners given for the Alpha Chi Omega Lip Sync event were incorrect. The correct winners are:

Best All-Around: Phi Sig All Stars  
Best Comedy: Teenie Weenies  
Most Innovative: Lambda Sigma Delta  
Best Choreography: Varsity Swim Team

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**Editorials** are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, executive editor, news editors, and opinion editors.

**Dissents** are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

**Columns and editorial cartoons** are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

**Letters to the editor** are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

**Letters and cartoons** must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No let-

ter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of *The Tech*. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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# Real Environmentalism: Pro-Nature, Pro-Man

Guest Column  
Daniel R. Feldman

In response to Matt Craighead on April 13 ["Bush's Environmentalism: Anti-Nature, Pro-Man"]:

What can I say? You hit the nail on the head: we environmentalists are anti-human, anti-business, and in fact, we're opposed to everything that's good and wholesome about this world. Our petroleum-run economy is the best thing that's ever happened to this world, and yet we environmentalists can't stand it. When we see eight-ton sport utility vehicles that are more elements of conspicuous consumption than actual vehicles, we gag. When we look at the fast-food, throw-away, television way of life that is the ultimate truth of our society, we are revolted.

It leads me, and it might lead Matt Craighead to wonder: why would such a group of firebrands be so diametrically opposed to all that is holy in America? Is it a sense of contrarianism that compels us to shudder at strip-malls and coal power and oil drilling? Is it the need for a sense of doom that pushes us to believe that consumptive human practices will lead to global catastrophe? Or is it a sense of nostalgia for the sixties when free love ruled and anti-establishment philosophy reigned?

Perhaps we environmentalists are a bunch of kooks looking for a problem in our all-too-perfect society of consumption. It is possible that there is a screw loose somewhere that hinders us from being able to enjoy what all Americans take for granted: the God-mandated requirement that we are personally responsible for the maximum usage of resources. If an American wants to take a whole case of napkins to wipe his or her hands, then he or she should be able to; if an American wants to buy a 60-ton tank that gets three gallons of gas to the mile and drive it to work, nothing and nobody should stand in his or her way; and if an American feels like killing off the last of the bald eagles to grow more McDonald's beef, then he or she should be empowered by our society.

From my perspective, however, being an environmentalist does not equal being a misanthrope, and Craighead's argument ignores the fundamental tenets of environmentalism. We environmentalists believe that responsibility and foresight are virtues which are sometimes ignored in the extraction of resources, the destruction of environments, and the emission of air and water pollutants. To that end, wildlife

destruction, air and water pollution, activities that lead to global warming, and the expansion of consumptive practices is that this way of living is fundamentally unsustainable: by perpetrating irresponsible environmental practices, we set ourselves up for a resource crisis that is more horrible than most of us can imagine. By clear-cutting the forests for their lumber, strip-mining the land for coal and other natural resources, casually spewing pollution into the air and water, and the like, we are doing excessive and unnecessary violence to the very thing that is essential to our continued way of life and survival. Consequently, environmentalists feel that a sustainable lifestyle is much wiser

*There are too many people and too few natural resources to allow six billion or so people to live the lifestyle that we do. Some might contend this is a consequence of us being industrialized, but compared to other developed nations, we are far more voracious.*

because it enables us to avert the environmental disasters towards which we are heading.

In addition to the aesthetic affront associated with environmental destruction, there are many frightening practical environmental losses. The realized consequences of irresponsible environmental practices would be disastrous: deregulation of water and air pollution would have massive health consequences, especially for children and elderly people. The extinction of species would lead to an undeniable ecological impact on the world, and in the event of a loss of species, we can only hope that the ecological impact will not severely destabilize our food chain. The most extreme impacts, however, would result from global warming. New figures from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) estimate the average earth temperature to rise by several degrees over the next century. I truly fear the consequences of such a result, for such a change in temperature may seem small to most people, but it would cause massive changes in climate systems leading to untold desertification and coastal flooding. Also, many temperature-sensitive species of animals and plants would become extinct, while there would be massive displacement and starvation of human populations. To

ignore the fairly-conclusive scientific data in exchange for the economic, social, and political gains over the next century is to invite disaster. But by making lifestyle modifications sooner rather than later, it is possible to avert these disasters, at least partially.

Fundamentally, environmentalists see the world that we live on as large but finite, mighty but also fragile. Our overbearing lifestyle is reckless in its usage of resources (America consumes about twice as much energy as everyone else, we drive far more miles than any other country, we consume about twice as much water as the next-most water

consumptive country, and we produce more municipal trash than any other citizenry; and that's on a per-capita basis) is one that is not suited to the world in which we live. There are too many people and too few natural resources on the planet to allow six billion or so people to live the lifestyle that we do. Some might contend that this is just a consequence of us being industrialized, but if one compares our consumption to that of other developed countries, one will find that we are infinitely more voracious. Then, some will argue that we are reaping the benefits of being the world's leader and superpower, and that people from other countries are

just unlucky. Fortunately, I do not even have to address such an inappropriate usage of quasi-patriotism to justify an irresponsible lifestyle by which we egocentrically feel that America is somehow better. Environmentalism looks toward sustainability as the answer: each human will have an impact on his or her environment, but by conserving resources and limiting general environmental impact, it is possible for us to live more sustainably.

Environmentalism is not a misanthropic philosophy; rather, environmentalists seek to live more responsibly with respect to the world by showing Americans that their current lifestyle is truly unsustainable. Some at MIT believe that the advent of new technology will be our savior in terms of providing better alternatives to the current standoff between consumption and sustainability, but in lieu of a series of panaceas which address each of our environmental conundra, let us recognize the limits of the world around us, let us realize that we are both directly and indirectly responsible for environmental destruction, and let us endeavor to live within our means for the long run. Responsibility, sustainability, and foresight are virtues.

Daniel R. Feldman '02 is a member of SAVE, MIT's student environmental group.

## Within the Sound of Science

Guest Column  
Andrew C. Thomas

After a friend recently asked me what religion I practiced, my own reflex answer (none) failed to placate even me. I had not given her, or even myself, a remotely clear explanation of my spiritual beliefs. That's probably because I've developed a strong loathing of the word religion, due in large part to its use in the phrase and entity "organized religion." History is replete with examples of terrors conducted at the hands of zealots, from the persecution of Christians in Roman times, to the execution of heretics during the Inquisition, to religious oppression in modern day China. It came as something of a blessing in disguise to me that etymological sources suggest that the word came from the Latin *religare*, meaning "to restrain" (the reason I prefer the term spirituality to religion). But it would be audacious of me to suggest that religion is, ironically, the tool of the devil. It has given billions of people ethical and moral satisfaction, purpose of being, and order in this vicious realm we all currently inhabit. And, say the devout, in the next plane of existence as well (whatever that may be).

But since the time of Galileo, objective science has taken a stand against old time religion. The scientific method slowly became a dominating force in the world, as the human race began to band together for reasons other than what god they believed in, what language they spoke, or who they should marry to make them powerful. Technologically, the human race began to pick up great speed. The once large world began to shrink down to the global marketplace we now see before us. But as people move closer

together, science and religion still grind against each other as they did in early 17th-century Pisa. Perhaps the danger now is greater than it was before — not the danger of the physical life of a clever man, but of the spiritual lives of those people who wish to live in true harmony. But should science or religion give way? Though I have for the most part attacked and blamed organized religion, science has its own faults to fix.

As I see it, science's downfall is its insis-

*Science's downfall is its insistence on making a set of rules to explain the universe. This does not even begin to answer the question of how we as cognizant beings experience it. Science is therefore insufficient to completely displace religion.*

tence on making a set of rules to conform to the world around us. By reducing all phenomena to a table of values and relations, science tries its best to make the universe as predictable as possible, although we may not be able to approach complete determinism through science. But still, the map is not the territory. To explain the universe does not even begin to answer the question of how we as cognizant beings experience it. Science is therefore insufficient to completely displace religion.

My favorite fiction author has expressed his disdain at both modern science and religion, taking potshots whenever he can. Douglas Adams stabs at dogma when he says that capital letters deal with things you can't explain well (such as "His resurrection"). But in his last visit, he spotted the foibles of MIT students who noticed that what you get when

you multiply 6 by 9 does equal his magic number of 42 if you express the numbers in base 13. Adams' argument, and the theme of his *Hitchhiker's Guide* series, was not to spend all of life solving equations but to realize the infinite possibilities of what could be.

I admit my own experience in this area is slim, but I try as best I can. Since I don't believe in organized religion, I start with what I understand. For me, music is the gateway that bridges science and spirituality.

While compositions can certainly be decompiled into a set of numbers and letters, it is the human reaction to these notes and silences that is the essence of music. I am at a loss to explain how these reactions occur, but I also know that my understanding of the physical process will not alter my feelings when I listen to Bach's *Brandenburg Concertos* or The Barenaked Ladies' *One Week*. My inability to explain these processes is simply the beginning of the journey — I will try to recreate them while playing music with others. When two people come together and share musical ideas, a new level of communication seems to be reached, one at least I fail to explain. I cannot help but feel enlightened whenever I experience a duet either from the inside or the outside.

Listening to and playing music is only the first exploration I have taken into what I can only begin to think of as my spiritual side. But seeing the ritualistic importance of music in most major religions, it seems that I may be heading down a similar path. Others before me have no doubt found similar insights. I pray that whatever paths I end up following will be wide enough to truly experience the world as it can be.

Andrew C. Thomas is a member of the Class of 2004.

# India's Balancing Act

Jyoti Tibrewala

I recently read an article in the *New York Times* ["Abortion in India Is Tipping Scales Sharply Against Girls," Apr. 22] on sex-selective abortions in India. A couple finds out the sex of a fetus, and often, if it is female, aborts it. The article went on to say that this practice has become regular in some parts of the country; the ratio of girls to boys has fallen to as low as 793 girls per 1,000 boys in some areas.

While I don't condone these actions, the underlying reasons are somewhat sensible. The Indian culture instills a preference for male children. Sons will carry the family name when they marry, will be bequeathed the family property, and will care for their parents in their old age; traditionally, the son's wife moves into his family's home, and their family grows in the same house. The father of the bride must also pay a dowry on the occasion of her wedding, so a daughter is considered a bit of a financial burden. Consider this in conjunction with the fact that female-selected abortion is much more prevalent in towns and villages than it is in big cities. It is easy to see that a dowry is quite a large consideration. Therein lies the creation of a financial burden (although I personally would

*India's sex-selective abortion is a great injustice. In the long run, it will not only hurt women, but it will also leave men without wives.*

have a problem being considered an excessive financial burden by my parents — people who are supposed to care for me no matter what).

Considering all of these factors, it is plain to see why there is such a strong preference for sons. However, purposely aborting female fetuses is not the answer.

First of all, the practice of sex-selecting fetuses for abortion is an injustice to society. At first glance, this may seem unjust only to women; in the long run, it affects everyone. If the abortion of female fetuses continues, the ratio of girls to boys in India will continue to decrease. The number of women available for marriage will be dwarfed by the number of available suitors. Only then will the mistake be realized, and by then it will already be too late.

Secondly, sex-determination tests were outlawed in India in 1994. This sort of atrocity should therefore not even be allowed to occur, but enforcement of the law is very lax. The article cites that doctors get around this obstacle by performing tests under the cover of diagnostic processes using ultrasound technology. The test is illegal, yet many doctors perform it anyway in order to sustain their practice. These doctors work in towns and villages where the residents tend to be poor. However, the doctors know the important role culture plays in the life of Indians, and they use this to their advantage by performing these sex tests. At the end of the day, they probably justify it by telling themselves they did a good deed for a couple; by telling them their baby would be female, they allowed the couple to make an informed decision on whether the child would be worth the time, resources, and money needed to raise her.

An immediate consequence of this logic would be perpetuation of the cultural belief that males are more important than females. While growing up, children might encounter this facet of their culture. This encounter could have hazardous effects on a growing girl's self-esteem and self-worth. Children are precious. They should be considered a gift, and accordingly, they should be treated as such. By mere virtue of their innocence, no child deserves to be put in a position where they feel inferior to anyone or anything. (As a side note, I personally have never encountered the male superiority notion, either while growing up or in my visits to India; I can only imagine what it must feel like to go through life believing it.)

India is a country with strong cultural roots which manifest themselves into many aspects of life. The bonds of culture are hard to break, but even India is getting on its way on the long road to gender equity. In many cities, women hold jobs outside of the home; this would be unheard of 10 to 20 years ago. For technology to pull the country back would be a slap in the face.



# The True Meaning Of May Day

Guest Column  
Brice Smith

The first of May is International Workers' Day, a holiday founded to honor the long and bloody struggle of working people throughout the world against their oppressors.

Over the past several weeks, there has been a lot of discussion of the so-called "Free Trade Area of the Americas" and the recent mass civil disobedience in Quebec. One has only to compare the reports of those who were actually there to the corporate media's carefully crafted accounts or to the dismissive statements issued by the government to realize the stark contrast between reality and what those in power want us to believe.

In light of this climate it is interesting to note that International Workers' Day is recognized in every industrialized country in the world except the United States and Canada. This fact becomes even more telling when one learns that the connection between May Day and the labor movement began in the 1880s in response to the brutal massacre of workers and labor leaders demonstrating for an eight-hour work day in Chicago. The history and meaning of May Day and the many attempts to wipe it from the popular conscience of Americans seems even more relevant today as we celebrate the first May Day of the new millennium sitting on the cusp of the next great human struggle, namely that between totalitarian trans-national corporations and a globalized work force.

It is important to touch on the events surrounding the history of May Day briefly. In 1884, the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions declared that eight hours would constitute a legal day's work from and after May 1, 1886. When workers went on strike at the McCormick Reaper Works Factory in Chicago on May 3, 1886, police fired into the peacefully assembled crowd, killing four and wounding many others. The anarchists, who

had been integral in the eight-hour movement, called for a mass rally the next day in Haymarket Square to protest this brutality. The rally proceeded peacefully until the end when 180 police officers entered the square and ordered the crowd to disperse. At that point, someone threw a bomb, killing one police officer and wounding 70 others. The police responded by firing into the crowd, killing one and injuring many others.

The violence at Haymarket was used as an excuse to try to destroy the progressive labor movement in Chicago. Eight of the city's most active anarchists were charged with conspiracy to commit murder even though only one even present at the meeting was on the speakers' platform. All eight were found guilty and sentenced to death, despite a lack of evidence connecting them to the person who threw the bomb. Four were hanged on November 11, 1887, Louis Lingg committed suicide in prison, and the remaining three were finally pardoned in 1893. Lucy Parsons, the widow of Albert Parsons, traveled the world urging workers to celebrate May Day and to remember the events of Haymarket and the subsequent government-sponsored murder of those fighting for the rights of all workers. Instead of destroying the anarchist movement, these events served to strengthen the movement, spawning other radical organizations, including the Industrial Workers of the World.

Over time, May Day grew to become an important day for organizing and unifying the international struggle of workers. In this coun-

try, however, every effort was made to prevent the working class from seizing this day as their own. The first serious attempt to undermine May Day occurred in the wake of the violence surrounding the end of the Pullman strike. In 1894 President Grover Cleveland declared the strike of Pullman workers a federal crime and deployed 12,000 troops to break the strike. When the violence ended,

Eugene Debs was in prison, the American Railway Union was disbanded, and Pullman employees had to sign a pledge that they would never again try to unionize. Protests against Cleveland's use of force were met with legislation establishing a Labor Day in September being rushed through Congress and signed into law just six days after federal troops broke the Pullman strike. This attempt

at appeasement helped to diminish May Day in this country, but not eliminate it.

More than half a century later, as the Cold War developed between the United States and the Soviet Union, May Day once again entered the national conscience. This time, it was portrayed by those in power as a Communist holiday founded on nothing but "anti-American" propaganda. In 1949, the Americanism Department of the VFW began a campaign to have May 1 designated as Loyalty Day. This was an organization whose founding statement included such principles as:

"We accept as a basis for action that Communists — whatever they profess at any given moment — are seeking by any and all means to subvert and destroy our ideals and national security ... We recognize that one of the greatest needs in our country today is educa-

tion against Communism."

Their goal was achieved in 1958 when Congress adopted Public Law 529 designating May 1 as Loyalty Day. Each year, on this day first set aside to honor those who gave their lives fighting the system of greed that would work entire families to death in the name of profit, we are told by our government that it is a day to reaffirm our loyalty to that very same system. Not satisfied with perverting a day of international worker solidarity into a nativist anti-Communist farce, in 1958 President Dwight D. Eisenhower carried out the wishes of Charles S. Rhyne, a Washington attorney and head of the American Bar Association, and established Law Day USA. In 1961 a joint resolution of Congress designated May 1 as the official day for celebrating Law Day USA. To this day, our government calls upon us to come together on this of all days to celebrate the same legal system that has locked away over two million of its own citizens, that has legalized state-sanctioned lynching of minorities, and that has locked away those peacefully trying to assert their First Amendment rights, to name a few of its many sins.

If this bizarre and at times downright absurd series of actions were to happen in any piece of fiction, we would discount it out of hand. It is truly a testament to the power of the mass media and our educational system for disseminating propaganda that tomorrow when you watch TV or read a paper, if anything, you will likely find more stories about the Loyalty Day parades and Law Day lectures occurring today than you will about the mass uprisings of workers around the world, and right here in Boston, who will no longer remain silent. In memory of the true heroes who were murdered by our own government while fighting for the rights we all enjoy today, it is our duty to stand up now and to fight for all of those who will follow us. That, I believe, is the true meaning of May Day.

Brice Smith is a graduate student in the Department of Physics.

*Instead of destroying the anarchist movement, the events in the wake of Haymarket served to strengthen the movement, spawning other radical organizations, including the Industrial Workers of the World.*

## Same Old Story, New Characters

Basil Enwegbara

The attention and controversy that *The Economist* drew last year when it declared Africa, on its front cover, as a hopeless continent was truly as explosive as an atomic bomb. But before *The Economist* rang that bell of a hopeless continent torn by all forms of intractable ethnic and interethnic warfare, the mode of "Afro-pessimism" and "conflict fatigue" was already high among the Africa analysts in Washington, with most U.S.-Africa analysts concurring that the U.S. should no longer continue to engage in African conflict resolution, as they believe U.S. national interests are nonexistent. This way, the consensus has remained for the U.S. to be guided by the principle of "African solutions to African problems." The National Security Adviser, Anthony Lake, did not hesitate to confirm this pessimism in December 1994, in his address to the members of the Organization for African Unity when he warned, "Those of us who recognize the importance of the continued active engagement and support for Africa are confronting the reality of shrinking resources and an honest skepticism about the return on our investments in peacekeeping and development." At the same time, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency was rolling out its intelligence report that "ethnic conflict, civil war, natural disasters will place a greater demand on humanitarian support in Africa than at any time." The picture the CIA finally painted of Africa by January 1995 is that "the nation-state is losing its grip in Africa because of unstable borders, large refugee flows between states, massive international migration within Africa, civil strife, criminal cross-border trading networks, the emergence of warlords in several countries, and foreign intervention."

Behind Robert Kaplan's coining of "Afro-pessimism" — that sees only chaos and instability as the defining characteristics of contemporary Africa — is a continent that

suffered a larger geostrategic burden than any other during the four decades of the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union. Even congressional leaders in Washington share the view that Africa is of no real interest to the United States; the continent as more trouble than it is worth; and aid to Africa as "money down foreign aid-rat-holes." One of the questions being posed by Washington is: can we create a new international political model for combating wars and instability in a continent that is deep-seated in negatives — from intractable ethnic intolerance and quest to destroy, to religious extremism and fanaticism? Reinforcing this new policy menu on Africa are the Western media's negative images, a carefully sponsored machinery to filter out stores in confirmation of this hopeless thesis.

But the questions are: why is Africa conflict-ridden and incessantly an unstable continent? Is Africa's present conflict situation unique in history? Or is Africa simply undergoing the historical process Europe, America and other continents have undergone in one stage of their journey to nationhood and homogeneity or the other? Is the dramatization of conflicts in Africa simply to generate deep-seated negative images to justify the physical atrocities and psychologically trauma meted to Africa by both Europe and America? What is needed is to browse through the history of any western country to be amazed by the number of wars fought and the intensity of the

warfare its efforts to build a nation-state or to force its national interest on both close and distant neighbors. This accounts for the hypocrisy of Europe, a continent that has been and remains at the center stage of warfare for over a thousand centuries. A look at European conflict shows that, from 1400 to 1559, Europe was engulfed in dynasty warfare; 1559 to 1648, in religious battles; 1648 to 1789, sovereignty; and from 1789 to 1917, wars of nationalism. It was the same Euro-

pean nationalism and quest for imperial expansion that plugged the world into two wars in the last century.

Even the presence of the U.S.-led NATO to protect European countries from warfare has never stopped wars in Europe — even when their political, economic and technical

*All the battles and civil warfare have in common that they are all inevitable parts of nation-building which ends in the emergence of a new, more united nation-state. The present wars in Africa are no different.*

costs outweigh the gains. The fall of Yugoslavia tells the story of a continent that still enjoys warfare, as the declaration of Croatian and Slovenian independence once again flared up a Europe that could only looking up to the United States to fight its backyard battle. The case of Britain is an interesting one since it is still engulfed in battles with its "colonized" neighbors. These nationalist movements have grown since Britain lost its commanding position in the world economy to the United States in the 1870s, and with Scotland, Northern Ireland, and Wales discovering how less attractive the former imperial power has become. In France the case is not different, as the battle to suppress the nationalism in Corsica continues. Italy has the North resisting being the country's bread winner. Separatist movements have not subsided in Spain, where the manufacturing powers of Catalan and Basque regions have continuously made them to view the agrarian Castile region as a dubious partner.

The story is not different in North America. While new economic geometry in Canada has increased tension for nationalism in Quebec, Alberta is constantly clashing with the eastern provinces over oil revenue. The case of the United States remains an interesting one full of battlefields and bloodshed indeed. To shake off any shackles imposed upon the colonies and perhaps place them back on the "barbarian occupiers" of the immense territory that nature favored with all the advantages of climate, soil, great navigable rivers, and lakes, Benjamin Franklin saw war as the inevitable option. But freeing the colonies from Britain and France and forming a Con-

tinental Union of America never translated into a peaceful country. To the extent that for almost a century the greatest Union ever built by human history remained a battlefield for secession. All the secessions were simply provoked by perceived threats to the economic or political interests of one region or the other with leaders engaged in the cost-benefit evaluation of continued participation the Union. It was first the Federalist New England that threatened to secede in 1812, as it feared its political influence and commercial interests undermined by the Louisiana Purchase. Later, it was the South seeking to secede, as it feared the economic domination of the industrializing North over the South.

What all these battles and warfare have in common is that they are all unfortunate but inevitable parts of nation-building which ends with the emergence of a new, stronger and more united nation-state, and the present wars in Africa are no different. The intractable nature of these new wars and their degree of violence and bloodshed is in correlation with the level of external involvement in African internal affairs — from the infusion of arms and personnel to technical assistance and financial backing all to either make Africans start fighting or to continue fighting each other without efforts to resolve their differences. Not only have these foreign intrusions helped breed wars among ethnic groups in Africa but have also facilitated the wars being prolonged to interminable ends. Western interests have been solely advanced at both national and international levels as African states continue to be engulfed in one form of civil war or the other. The availability of cheap armaments after the Cold War has helped ambitious soldiers to challenge a government or helps facilitate new wars. While the absence of a continental defense force and regional peacekeeping organizations has in most cases created new conditions for conflicts in Africa, to such extent that ending or continuing these wars have become impossible without the same foreigners intervening, the end of these wars would transform Africa into a land of freedom: free from prejudice, hate and envy; free religious fanaticism, ethnic factionalism and rigid citizenship; and free from tyrants and coercive forces that will undermine the new image and a sense of a continental cohesion.

*One of the tasks facing Washington is the creation of a new model to combat wars and instability in a continent that is deep-seated in negatives. Reinforcing this new policy menu on Africa are the Western media's negative images, carefully sponsored to confirm this hopeless thesis.*



## Letters To The Editor

Letters, from Page 4

### FTAA: The Need For Direct Action

In response to Mr. Esaki's column from April 24 ["What the Protesters Demonstrate"]; he asks if it would not be better to change the system from within. Civil society has tried this mode of change over the last four years; NGOs and unions have submitted recommendations to the Free Trade Area of the Americas' (FTAA) Committee of Government Representatives on the Participation of Civil Society. Their efforts have not resulted in any response from the committee. Effectively civil society has been shut out of participating from within. In addition, the three-meter-high fence erected in Quebec City serves as a visual reminder that the FTAA will be negotiated without attention to the voices of the people.

This leaves those opposed to the FTAA with no other option but to take to the streets and engage in direct action. Direct action has been an essential part of every successful movement for social change in the United States and the world. Two movements, the anti-colonial movement in India and the civil rights movement in the United States, used various forms of direct action to achieve their goals. Nonviolent direct action allows people to move toward a variety of goals, allowing them to take power back from their oppressors. It enables communities to overcome the dangerous fatalism evinced by Mr. Esaki's blithe "c'est la vie" rhetoric by challenging and transforming the political, social and economic structures by which they are marginalized and oppressed.

Payal Parekh G

### ROTC Should Address Gender Issues

As always, the big ROTC event last Friday once again drew attention to the ban on gays in the ROTC programs. Although personally I'm very accepting of homosexuality itself, I've understood the military's argument that the presence of homosexuals and homosexual relationships might cause distractions and discomfort that would adversely affect performance.

Recently, however, I've wondered why this argument hasn't been extended to women in the military. There have been several instances of romantic relationships between ROTC cadets. Undoubtedly such relationships cause awkwardness not unlike that allegedly caused by the presence of homosexuals. Even aside from such romantic involvement, many men simply don't accept the modern role of women in the military.

Perhaps the answer is to get rid of all the

women. On the other hand, maybe it would be better to get rid of all the men. Regardless, if the ROTC programs are really concerned with avoiding interpersonal problems between heterosexuals and homosexuals, they should also address issues involving men and women.

Robert Kochman '02

### Leftists Disrupted Objectivist Lecture

In her column "Foolishness Stalks the Halls of MIT" [April 27], Noémi Giszpenc misrepresented the events of April 19. She neglected to explain that she and others at the "Capitalism and the Environment" lecture (given by Richard Salsman and sponsored by the MIT Objectivist Club) disrupted parts of the lecture and most of the question and answer section. During the question and answer section, Mr. Salsman called on several of these people with the hopes of getting reasonable questions about the substance of his lecture. Unfortunately, what he received were tirades that contained no semblance of a question. Apparently these audience members did not understand the question and answer format. After several attempts to get these people to either ask a question or leave, the MIT Objectivist Club president saw it appropriate to call the Campus Police so that the question and answer section could continue. The police were not called to remove dissenters — after many of the disrupting members of the audience left, several people who had reservations about Mr. Salsman's speech were able to ask him questions — but to stop certain parts of the audience from disrupting the lecture. Just as one doesn't have the right to stand up in 6-120 during 7.28 lecture and spout off whatever comes to mind, one cannot disrupt a lecture given by anyone who officially reserves the lecture hall.

Giszpenc's actions and distortion of the truth should not surprise anyone. The radical left is notorious for using force and untruths to further their agenda. Take for example the current "Living Wage" campaign at Harvard University. Instead of entering into rational discourse with the administration, the leftist PSLM has taken over a building at Harvard, violating the university's property rights. Often times these groups use the symbol of the clenched fist to show the power of their movement. What message does this send? It sends the message that these groups are not willing to persuade others with reason, but want to beat agreement into them. Reason and rational discourse must be our only means of exchanging ideas if this is to be a free and civilized society. Whether it be trespassing on private property or purposefully disrupting a lecture, these cases of irrational behavior should not be tolerated, no matter what the message.

Michael M. Torrice '02

## A Woman's Guide To Graduate Studies

Guest Column  
Maribel Vazquez

I was happily surprised to see that the center section of the April 24 edition of *The Tech* was dedicated to women's issues at MIT. The section addressed numerous issues particularly affecting women such as discrimination, child care, and sexual violence. The articles also incorporated many quotes from MIT students relating their experiences as females at the Institute.

However, although the section was excellent as a whole, it was largely concerned with the issues facing the MIT undergraduate population. Sadly, women's issues become increasingly complicated as women pursue graduate degrees. One of the major concerns of women in graduate school is low enrollment. Although *The Tech* reported that in 2000 a third of all students enrolled at MIT were female, the percentage of women enrolled in doctoral programs was closer to 10 percent. MIT is now working to address the issue of low female enrollment in graduate programs.

As part of our involvement, MEGA Women (The Mechanical Engineering Graduate Association of Women) has arranged for a guest speaker to give a seminar at MIT this Friday, May 4. The speaker is Dr. Barbara Lazarus, who has recently co-authored a book entitled *The Woman's Guide to Navigating the Ph.D. in Engineering and Science*. Dr. Lazarus is an associate provost at Carnegie Mellon University and has written several articles on women's issues in graduate education. Below is an excerpt from her book that can also serve as a preview of the seminar.

Attendees can gain insight from the discussion regardless of whether they are students or faculty, female or male. Dr. Lazarus will speak on May 4 from 6-7 p.m. in room 3-133 preceded by a reception from 5-6 p.m. in the same room.

The excerpt below is from *The Woman's Guide to Navigating the Ph.D. in Engineering and Science*, by Barbara B. Lazarus, Lisa M. Ritter, and Susan A. Ambrose, which offer important insight into this prob-

lem. The excerpt is reprinted with the authors' permission:

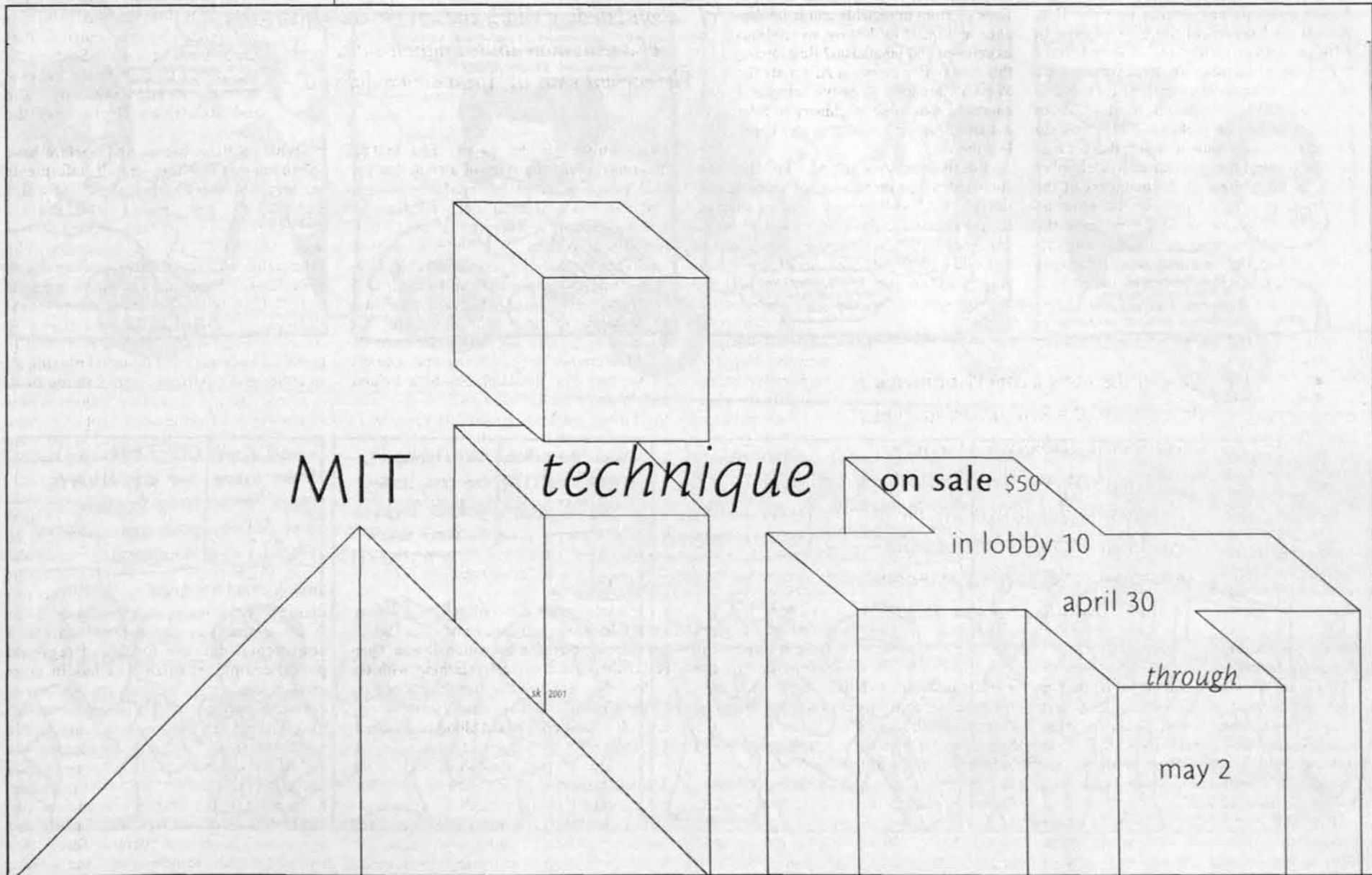
"As an undergraduate, your professor lectured on a series of topics on which you were later tested. The lesson was clearly defined and you were learning existing knowledge. In graduate school, the method of learning is very different — and difficult for a number of women. Although your classes seem like those in college, the ultimate goal of attending these classes is to help you search out questions and define your research interests — not to specifically "learn" a lesson. As you progress in your graduate work, both faculty and peers challenge and test your ideas. Although the questioning may be intense, the professor is really trying to test the student's analytical, reasoning, and communication skills.

*As an undergraduate, your professor lectured on topics on which you were later tested. The lesson was clearly defined and you were learning existing knowledge. In graduate school, the method of learning is very different, and is difficult for a number of women.*

"Many women perceive insistent questioning as harsh and negative, or as a personal attack. Many women may feel vulnerable as a result of stereotypes portraying them as "dumb" and by asking questions and continually challenging their reasoning, many women feel that a professor is commenting on their intelligence or worthiness as graduate students. Although some women can positively respond to learning through critique, many internalize the criticism and only hear, "you're wrong and you don't belong here." Self-esteem and socialization are the root of many women's difficulty in dealing with new methods of learning in graduate school.

"The gender difference can also prove to be a disadvantage in working with a male advisor. If a male advisor believes that women may react more "emotionally" to criticism, he may not give her the feedback she needs to make her work better. And so the female student is denied an advantage that the male student is not, through no fault of her own (Mapstone, 1990)."

Maribel Vazquez is the co-president of MEGA Women.



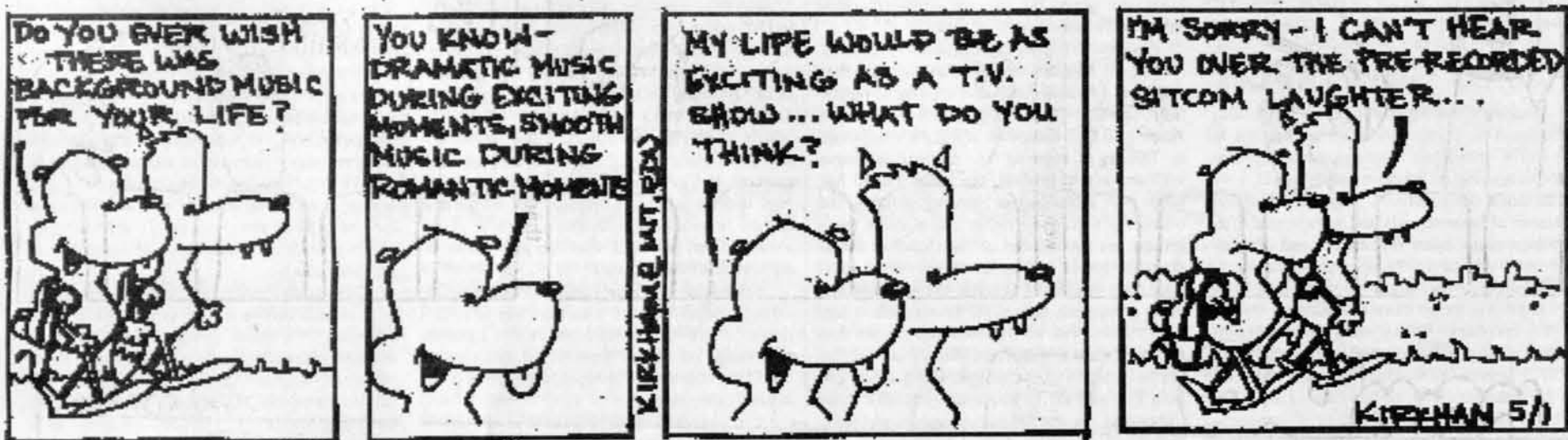


## Down with Science

by Jennifer DiMase



## the crass rat





INSTITUTE MADNESS!

ALISON WONG

SO WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS FOR LONG TIME KELLY, I FEEL LIKE WE CAN TELL EACH OTHER EVERYTHING.

Change the subject

AT THIS SCHOOL, IT'S SO HARD TO FIND SOMEONE LIKE YOU.

subject change the subject... he's only your school, about courses, remember that time when

SO I BROUGHT YOU HERE TONIGHT BECAUSE I'VE BEEN MEANING TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT...

friend, he's your best friend... only friends he... or when you... Oh what to order, change...

ARE YOU READY TO ORDER? OUR SPECIAL TONIGHT IS SMOKED PIG.

...US.

oink.

Thank You for your Interest

by Dave, Kara, and Raj

... AND SO YOU CAN SEE, AMY'S PAINFUL HIGH HEELED SHOES SYMBOLIZE THE OPPRESSION OF AMERICAN WOMEN. CONVERSELY...

web.mit.edu/midha/www

THAT IS THE WORST BS I'VE EVER HEARD. I'M NOT PAYING \$25K TO HEAR YOUR IGNORANT VOICE. I WANT TO BE LECTURED TO BY AN EXPERT, NOT SOME 20 YEAR OLD MIT NERD.

thankyou@mit.edu

REMEMBER, CLASS PARTICIPATION IS 30% OF YOUR GRADE. LIKE I WAS SAYING, AMY'S STAMP COLLECTION SYMBOLIZES HER DESIRE TO STAMP OUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE...

RANDOMELAND

Xixi D'MOON

WHERE ARE THE STREET SIGNS?

?

YOUNG LADY, THIS STREET HAS BEEN HERE FOR OVER A HUNDRED YEARS

SO... BOSTON'S STREETS ARE MERELY SUPPOSED TO BE KNOWN BY BOSTONIANS

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**JAPANESE**

**WOMEN NEEDED (NOW or this SUMMER). PLEASE HELP !!**

Physician is assist'g a couple wanting to start family. PLEASE HELP!!! Inquire "donor program" at website [www.physician.yourmd.com](http://www.physician.yourmd.com), or toll free (800)862-5158

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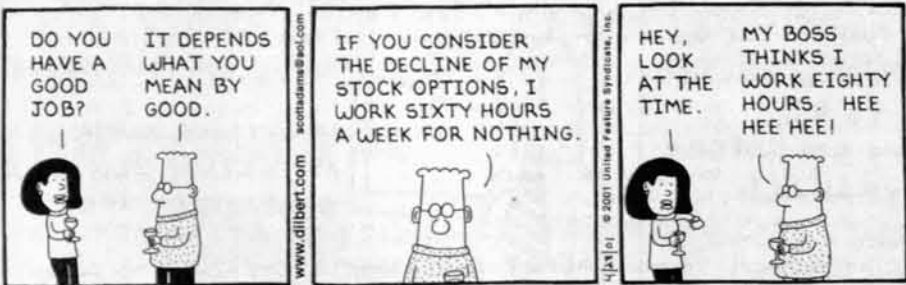
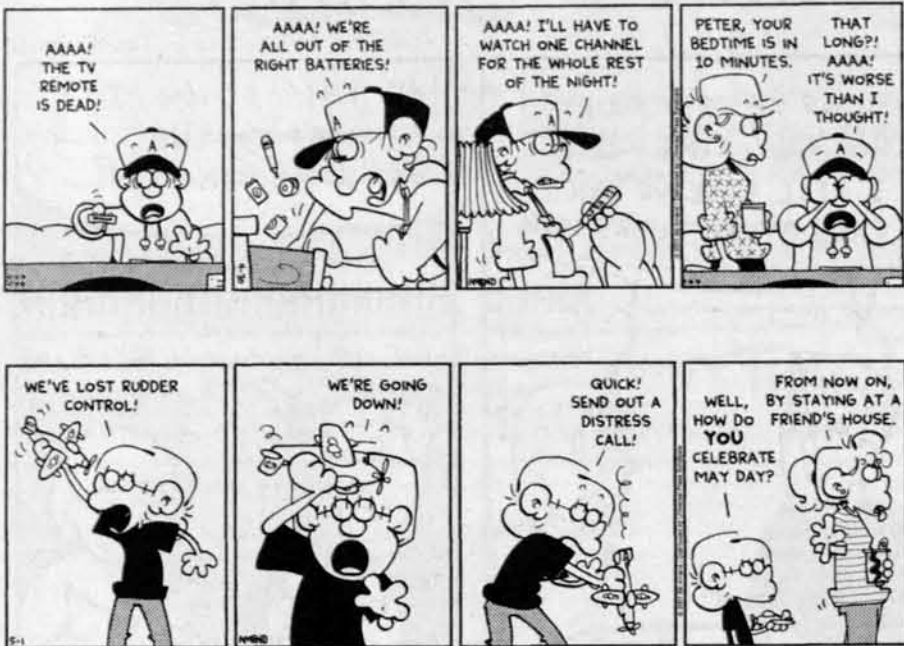
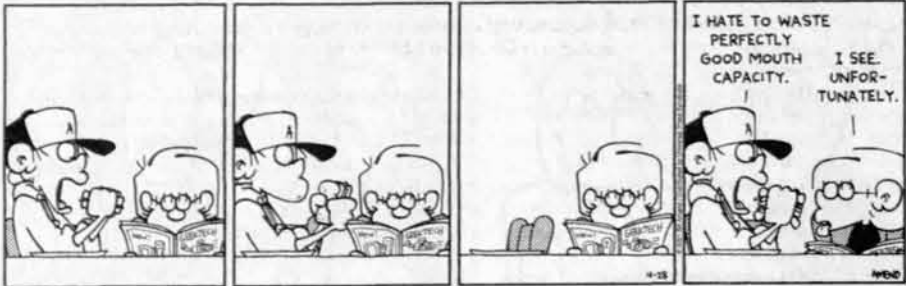
earn up to \$600 per month

If you're male, in college or have a college degree, and are interested in a job where you can earn up to \$600 per month on your own schedule, call 617-497-8646 for information on our anonymous sperm donor program. Only in this unique job can you earn extra income and help infertile couples realize their dream of becoming parents.

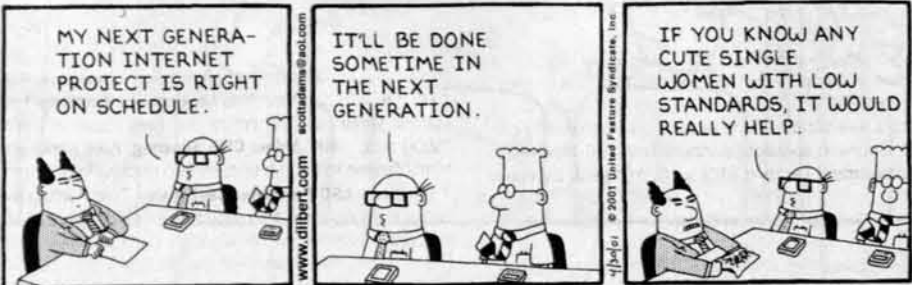


FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



Dilbert®



by Scott Adams



Fun With Clip Art

Aaron Isaksen

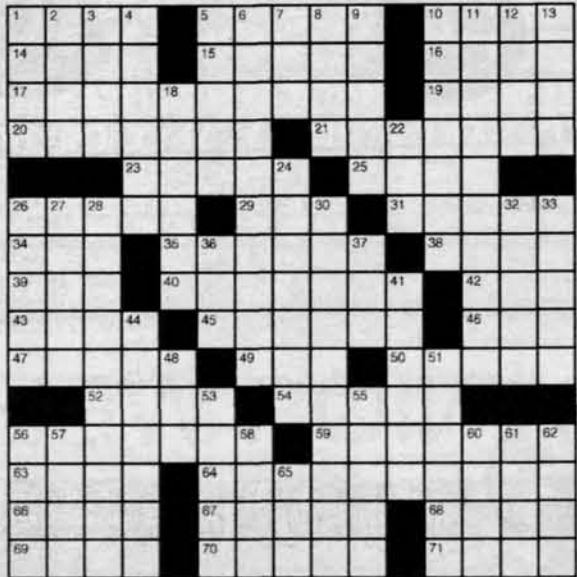


"To sum up, this tax cut is going to be f--kin' sweet for us White people."

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 22

- ACROSS
- 1 Roe source
  - 5 Swings of the bat
  - 10 Thick porridge
  - 14 Ritzy ride
  - 15 Core group
  - 16 Fascinated by
  - 17 Crossed above
  - 19 Adult Ugly Duckling
  - 20 Under
  - 21 Surgeon who created a cereal
  - 23 "\_\_\_ of the Heart"
  - 25 Lion's call
  - 26 Evert of tennis
  - 29 Siesta
  - 31 Cheapskate
  - 34 Use indigo
  - 35 Holiday concoction
  - 38 Call a chicken?
  - 39 Crimson or scarlet
  - 40 Homesteader
  - 42 Bikini piece
  - 43 Small bills
  - 45 Nabokov novel
  - 46 Guided
  - 47 Talking parrot
  - 49 Trawling device
  - 50 Impoverished
  - 52 Redolence
  - 54 Carries a tune
  - 56 Swings and misses?
  - 59 Shrinks' sofas
  - 63 Pension \$\$
  - 64 Ardent fan of recorded music
  - 66 Green stroke
  - 67 Frog's call
  - 68 River through Dresden
  - 69 Gets the point
  - 70 Second decade
  - 71 Highway or byway
- DOWN
- 1 Tie spotter?
  - 2 Abode of buzzers
  - 3 Grace conclusion
  - 4 Scale notes
  - 5 Skeddaddles
  - 6 Olympia's state
  - 7 Classified
  - 8 Difficult journey
  - 9 Passover dinner
  - 10 Lost
  - 11 Not practicable
  - 12 Alone
  - 13 \_\_\_ Kong
  - 18 Brief stops
  - 22 Prune
  - 24 Parts of saddles
  - 26 Computer product
  - 27 Serengeti hunter
  - 28 Change furnishings



- 30 Elected official
- 32 Was mistaken
- 33 Poised for action
- 36 Hair-styling product
- 37 Understand
- 41 Called
- 44 Pain dispensers
- 48 Asian frying pan
- 51 Graphic artist, M.C. \_\_\_
- 53 Show shock, e.g.
- 55 Alcoves
- 56 Small drinks
- 57 Verifiable
- 58 Convinced
- 60 Hawaiian seaport
- 61 Napoleon's isle of exile
- 62 Potential plant
- 65 Buck's mate



# TechCalendar

Visit and add events to TechCalendar online at <http://tech-calendar.mit.edu>

## Tuesday, May 1

12:00 a.m. - 11:59 p.m. – **CCRR Grants Program: CCRR Grants Application Deadline.** This month’s deadline for submitting applications to the CCRR Grants Program. free. Sponsor: Committee on Campus Race Relations.

12:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. – **White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.** The Technology and Policy Program will be co-sponsoring a day-long conference on federal science and technology policy. The conference will mark the 25th anniversary celebration of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. The location will be here at MIT’s Wong Auditorium (Building E51, First Floor). Speakers will include MIT President Charles Vest, most of the past President’s Science Advisers, and notables from within and without MIT, discussing the role of the Office of Science & Technology Policy over the past 25 years. Registration is required (no fee). Sponsor: The Sloan Foundation, the MIT President’s Office, the MIT Engineering Systems Division, and the MIT Technology and Policy Program.

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. – **The Discovery of the Electron and the Atomism Debate.** Rescheduled: Dibner Institute Lunchtime Colloquium. free. Room: E56-100. Sponsor: Dibner Institute.

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. – **SPECIAL SEMINAR: Si Microphotonics and Microcavities.** High index contrast between Si and SiO<sub>2</sub> accounts for highly optical confining structures. This allows the fabrication of low loss sub-micron size optical elements, such as optical waveguides, splitters, modulators, emitters, detectors, etc. For optically active elements, Erbium in Si-based micro-cavities have been studied. free. Room: von Hippel Room, 13-2137 (refreshments at 1:45 p.m.). Sponsor: EECS.

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Diffusion and Ordering of Block Copolymers.** DMSE Distinguished Lecturer Series, featuring world-class speakers in Materials Science and Engineering. free. Room: 4-270 (followed by reception at 4:30 p.m. in 8-314). Sponsor: Dept. of Materials Science and Engineering.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **MTL VLSI Seminar Series.** Low Power Design Challenges for the Decade. free. Room: 34-101. Sponsor: MTL VLSI Seminar.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Probability and Statistics: Some Thoughts on the Basic Course Sequence.** Refreshments will be served at 3:30 p.m. in room 2-349. free. Room: 2-338. Sponsor: Statistics Seminar. Department of Mathematics.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Control of settlements due to tunnelling in soft ground.** free. Room: 1-350. Sponsor: Engineering & Environmental Mechanics Group.

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. – **Gas Turbine Seminar Series.** free. Room: 31-161. Sponsor: Gas Turbine Laboratory.

5:00 p.m. – **Globalization and the Future of Democracy: Lessons from Greece.** free. Room: Killian Hall, 14W-111. Sponsor: MIT Japan Program. MISTI.

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – **Aga Khan Lecture.** Weaving Historical Narratives: Beirut’s Last Mamluk Monument, by Dr. Howayda Al-Harithy, Department of Architecture and Design, The American University of Beirut. free. Room: 4-231. Sponsor: Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture.

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. – **Daughter of Rape/Abortion Survivor.** Rebecca Kiessling, daughter of a rapist and nearly aborted, will give a lecture on campus. This is a national speaker. All are invited.

Question and answer period to follow lecture. free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Pro-Life, MIT.

8:00 p.m. – **Wish You Were Here: Video documentary by Kevin Choi '01.** Documentary by the management major about identity, family, God and self-discovery during recent travels in Europe. Mr. Choi is a winner of a 1999 List Foundation Fellowship in the Arts.Reception follows. free. Room: Wong Auditorium. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

## Wednesday, May 2

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. – **Global Undersea Cable Networks.** Optics. free. Room: 34-401B, Grier Room. Sponsor: Optics.

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. – **Physical Oceanography Sack Lunch Seminar.** “A Similarity Model for the Windy Jovian Thermocline.” free. Room: 54-915. Sponsor: Physical Oceanography.

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **spouses&partners@mit-Reverse Culture Shock, Repatriation, and Friendship.** Anne Copeland, PhD is the Director of the Interchange Institute, a company devoted to people and organizations in intercultural transition. Anne will join us to explore what to expect when we return to our home country, and present some different perspectives on repatriation. She will also present a new project she is working on which examines various cultures’ experience of friendship. free. Room: W20-400. Sponsor: spouses&partners@mit, MIT Medical.

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. – **Industry Leaders in Technology and Management Lecture.** Michael C.Ruettgers, Executive Chairman EMC Corporation. free. Room: Wong Auditorium, Tang Center (E51). Sponsor: Office of Corporate Relations/ILP. Center for Technology, Policy, and Industrial Development.

4:00 p.m. – **What Genomes Can Tell Us About Protein-DNA Interactions.** Focus will be on the problem of protein-DNA interactions and how computational analysis identifies crucial amino acids that determine the specificity of DNA-binding proteins. Results will be presented on the speaker’s analysis of the LacI/PurR family of bacterial transcription factors. free. Room: E25-101. Sponsor: HST.

5:00 p.m. – **Advanced Music Performance Concert.** Media Arts and Sciences graduate student Tara Rosenberger Shankar, soprano. With Charles Shadle, harpsichord/piano; Mea Cook G, continuo/cello. Handel’s *Ho fuggito Amore*, HWV 118; Fauré’s *La Bonne Chanson*, op. 61; Libby Larsen’s *Beloved, Thou Hast Brought Me Many Flowers*. free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – **Start-up Clinic.** Attendees discover how to present a business plan to potential investors. Two pre-selected companies present their business plans and receive feedback from a panel of experts and the audience over an informal dinner. The key learning points include how plans and presentations are evaluated; what investors and evaluators look for, and how to fine-tune plans and presentations. These events are limited to 60 pre-registered individuals. \$35 for Forum members & students; \$45 non-members. Room: MIT Faculty Club, Bldg. E52. Sponsor: MIT Enterprise Forum of Cambridge, Inc.

6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – **MIT SCA Chainmail Workshop.** Come and learn simple medieval chainmail weaves and patterns to make your very own shirt (hauberk), or hood (coif). Smaller sized links can be used to make jewelry. We will provide the steel, brass, and copper links, pliers, and instruction. Please bring your own pliers, if you have any. free. Room: Private Dining Room #3, Student Center (W20). Sponsor: Society for Creative Anachronism.

7:00 p.m. – **Lecture Series Committee Presents Artist Arthur Ganson.** Arthur Ganson is a visiting artist whose current display of robotic art at the MIT Museum is nothing short of spectacular. Mr. Ganson is a very talented artist and a tremendous speaker who would like to share his visions with the MIT community. free. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

TechCalendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the TechCalendar web page.

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. – **Renaissance Dancing.** There are many forms of Renaissance Dancing that we practice, from Italian balli to courtly pavans to English country. We dance them all with flair and fun. Dress is common street clothing. No experience necessary; instruction is provided. free. Room: 31-161. Sponsor: Society for Creative Anachronism.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – **International Film Club Film Seminar Series.** Pixote (Brazilian Movie). free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, International Film Club.

## Thursday, May 3

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. – **SAP User Group.** free. Room: E51-Wong Auditorium. Sponsor: Information Systems.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Improving global modeling and data analysis using remotely-sensedrainfall data: Lessons from TRMM and Plans for GPM.** TRMM is Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission and GPM is Global Precipitation Mission. free. Room: 54-915. Sponsor: MIT Atmospheric Science Seminars.

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. – **Finance Made Difficult: Opportunities and Challenges in Quantitative Finance.** ORC Spring Seminar Series. Seminar followed by refreshments in E40-106. free. Room: E56-270. Sponsor: Operations Research Center.

4:15 p.m. – **The Challenge of Sustainable Appropriate Technology for the Developing World.** The third in HST’s Biomedical Engineering Seminar Series on low-cost devices and biomedical science for the developing world. Land mines, war surgery and amputations result in a significant need for mechanical prostheses in some areas of the developing world. A “high tech device” is not only unaffordable but also often not the best fit to local manufacture, to easy maintenance and repair, or to specific environmental conditions (climate, working conditions etc.). A locally made “low-tech device” may be much cheaper when purchased. But does it fulfill the biomechanical demands? An intermediate approach using locally manufactured polypropylene devices and componentry is described. free. Room: E25-111. Sponsor: HST.

4:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Physics Colloquium Series.** “Cosmic Accelerators.” free. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: Physics Department.

5:00 p.m. – **Anime Identities: Japanese Anime and the American Audience.** A visting scholar at Harvard will speak about the American consumption of Japanese anime (animated films). free. Room: 2-105. Sponsor: Women’s Studies Program, Comparative Media Studies.

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. – **Modern Square Dance.** This challenging class teaches you Plus level square dancing set to a wide range of modern music. We begin by teaching you the calls which make up each level of dancing, which you then apply throughout the class. A group of eight dancers works together in this uniqueform of American dance. Focus is on fast and rigorous learning, reaction time, and flow. No experience or partner necessary. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes. Regular attendance expected. First night is free. Room: Lobdell Dining Hall — Student Center. Sponsor: Tech Squares.

8:00 p.m. – **Bhoma.** Play by Badal Sircar. Directed by Sudipto Chatterjee. \$8, \$6 students ans seniors. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Dramashop.

8:00 p.m. – **The Grand Duke.** MIT Gilbert and Sullivan Players production, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the show’s U.S. premiere, on May 4, 1901, at MIT. \$9, \$7 MIT affiliates and senior citizens, \$6 students. Room: Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Gilbert and Sullivan Players, MIT.

8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – **Investigative Bible Discussion.** The answer is ... 42! Or is it? There was once a man who said, “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.” What if He was right? Join us on a four-week interactive search to understand Jesus and his claims about the Bible. free. Room: Ashdown House Fabyan Room. Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellowship.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – **International Film Club Film Seminar Series.** free. Room: 4-237, Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, International Film Club.

9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – **Ashdown House Coffee Hour.** free. Room: Ashdown House Hulsizer Room. Sponsor: Residential Life and Student Life Programs.

## Friday, May 4

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – **Al-Anon Open Discussion: Al-Anon Meeting.** free. Room: E25-101. Sponsor: MIT Medical.

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. – **Two Legends: Dietrich and Plaf.** Bilingual Cabaret for Foreign Language and Literature Majors, Minors and Concentrators. free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Foreign Languages & Literatures.

7:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. – **MIT Anime Club Showing.** Kare Kano, library checkout distributions, feature anime. Check out <http://anime.mit.edu/> for complete details. free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT.

7:00 p.m. – **LSC Presents: Cast Away.** Tom Hanks gives an Oscar-nominated performance as Chuck Nolan, a Fedex engineer who is stranded on a deserted island after his plane crashes during a storm. With only a volleyball for companionship, he constructs a makeshift boat and leaves the island, hoping to return to his sweetheart Kelly (Helen Hunt) and resume his life. \$2.50. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

7:30 p.m. – **MIT/Wellesley Toons at Wellesley College.** Co-ed a cappella ensemble. free. Room: Wellesley Chapel. Sponsor: Toons.

7:30 p.m. – **LSC Classics Presents: The Manchurian Candidate.** One of the most thrilling spy movies ever made. Starring Frank Sinatra and Laurence Harvey as Korean War soldiers who are brainwashed into becoming sleeper agents, and Angela Lansbury as Harvey’s mother. Returning home after the war, Harvey rises to high political office, while Sinatra is haunted by dim memoriesof the brainwashing. A tantalizing glimpse into the paranoid mentality of the Cold War. \$2.50. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: LSC.

8:00 p.m. – **Bhoma.** Play by Badal Sircar. Directed by Sudipto Chatterjee. \$8, \$6 students and seniors. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Dramashop.

8:00 p.m. – **MIT Concert Choir.** William Cutter, director. John Harbison’s *Der Abend* (premiere); Ralph Vaughan Williams’ *Five Mystical Songs*; Maurice Durufle’s *Requiem*; Beethoven’s *Elegischer Gesang*. With Tara Shankar (MIT), mezzo-soprano; Brian Church (New England Conservatory), baritone; Adam Smith (MIT), baritone. Free tickets available in Lobby 10 4/30-5/2; \$2 at the door. Room: Kresge Auditorium. Sponsor: Concert Choir.

8:00 p.m. – **The Grand Duke.** MIT Gilbert and Sullivan Players production, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the show’s U.S. premiere, on May 4, 1901, at MIT. \$9, \$7 MIT affiliates and senior citizens, \$6 students. Room: Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Gilbert and Sullivan Players, MIT.

8:00 p.m. – **Not So.** Workshop performance of a play written and directed by physics senior Aaron Santos. Author notes that this is the story of a family living in the perfect house and the troubles that enter when the door won’t lock. Who knows what evil will enter the house? Famine? Murderers? Ballerinas? Who hasn’t dreamed of having a dust free house?. free. Room: Stratton Student Center Room 491. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

10:30 p.m. – **LSC Presents: Cast Away.** Please see 7:00 p.m. listing. \$2.50. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

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Farewell Reception at the New England Aquarium: June 6    Pancakes With President Vest: June 7  
Infinite Connection Reception: June 7    Tech Night at the Pops: June 7    Great Court Gala: June 9    Techsas BBQ: June 10

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Maryann Smela, MITCSS Coordinator  
MIT Rm. 56-686, x3-6207, [mare@mit.edu](mailto:mare@mit.edu)

Mark Throop, MITCSS Commissioner  
Messages: 283-3670, [mthroop@ultranet.com](mailto:mthroop@ultranet.com)



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# Spring Weekend



It was an opportunity for MIT students to relax and enjoy great music, delicious food, stunning weather, and one another's company.

So maybe we don't ever really relax. But the rest is true.

Spring weekend opened with Alpha Chi Omega's Lip Sync competition in the Johnson Athletics Center, where competitors filled the stage with sexual innuendo, enthusiastic dancing, tongue-in-cheek self-deprecation, political humor, and Institute mockery.

The energy and excitement carried into Friday, where Kresge Oval and the steps of the Student Center were filled with cultural performances, culinary pleasure, and more dancing. Friday night brought the weekend's main attraction to Johnson: the double-header concert of Blues Traveler and Roots. The groups, both Grammy-winners, packed the gymnasium with students from MIT and surrounding schools.

The allure of more music and food drew students to Kresge twice more on Saturday for Kresge Kickback's free lunch and ice cream, and the 2001 Odyssey Ball's live band, dancing, and dessert.

## AXO Lip Sync

Lip Sync kicked off Spring Weekend's festivities. The event benefited the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center and the McDowell Colony, an artists' retreat in New Hampshire. "Lip Sync was awesome. I was so impressed with the talent and quality of the acts," said Janaki T. Wickrema '02.

To say nothing of their boldness. It takes courage to strip down to nothing but boxers like Phi Delta Theta '04, "bump that rump" Sigma Kappa style, or dance in drag to "Time Warp" a la Phi Beta Epsilon when your judges are also members of the MIT administration, including Dean of Student Activities Tracey Purinton, and Health Educator for Students Gina Baral.

The night's winners of the Best All-Around prize were the Phi Sigma Kappa All-Stars, whose "Hail to the Chief" brought political smarm, wit, and pratfalls to the stage. Ironically, the All-Stars were the only

unbilled act. "We're all happy that they got in at the last minute because of the quality of their act," said Wickrema.

"It was all or nothing," said Chris J. Emig '01. "We weren't billed because we didn't know if we'd have time to get everything ready, and we stayed up almost all night learning our act. MIT has taught us well," he said. "We've gotten really good at crunching everything into one night."

The prize for Best Comedy went to the Teeny Weenies, Dan Relihan '04 and Kip M. Johann-Berkel '02. The complete silliness of two muscle-bound college boys in itchy bits, teeny weenie, yellow polka dot bikini tops was surpassed only by their good humor, especially when Relihan's bikini stubbornly refused to stay tied.

The Most Innovative prize was awarded to Course 69, also known as the Lambda Sigma Delta girls: Charisse Massay, Eillen Teclé, and Rebecca Maglathlin, whose performance of Destiny's Child's "Survivor" pulsed with dynamic energy. "We rocked. We made our own shirts, choreographed the whole thing ourselves," said Charisse L. Massay '03. The enthusiasm of their performance was backed by a desire to "represent the east side of campus. There was no representation here from the east, it was all west side. We're a minority," said Massay.

The award for Best Choreography went to the Varsity Swim Team's "Sync or Swim." The team used the music and dance style of N\*Sync's "Bye Bye Bye" to put together an energetic, athletically challenging dance routine. The visual synchrony of their dancing was impressive and sharply executed.

The non-competitive AXO sisters delivered a hearty dose of self-deprecating MIT humor. The freshmen parodied stereotypical fraternity boys, the seniors reviewed their MIT experience, and the sisters all showed that it is indeed "Hip to be Square." Some of the best Institute jokes could be found in the interludes, starring AXO seniors in a dating

game that paired a Star Trek fan with her 8.01 teacher's assistant on a date to Courses.

The intimate inside-joking of the gathering lent a friendly, fun atmosphere to the event, and the camaraderie within and among the acts was apparent throughout the performance.

## Spring Weekend Concert

A very different feel was present the next night, when students crowded the floor and seats of the gymnasium to see The Roots and Blues Traveler.

By the time Blues Traveler emerged onstage, the crowd was ready for excitement. Unfortunately, Blues Traveler did less to maximize that energy and more to sedate their audience. Though the music rattling ribcages, it didn't prevent many from falling unconscious.

The band lacked the distinctively radical element of attitude that stirs the energy of the viewers; the crowd swayed more than it danced and cheered only half-heartedly. Some even ventured as far as to peer over the sound manager's shoulder, counting down as the playlist neared an end.

Other than the hefty waistline reduction, lead singer John Popper remained static on stage, belting out their standard fare of rock and roll, blues, and endless ballads. Sadly, his

voice was muffled by the piercingly loud accompaniment. In all, the disappointment came not from the talents of Blues Traveler as a musical power-house (who could dispute the Grammy Awards?), but from their disenchanting performance alone.

Above all, they didn't even perform "Run Around," perhaps the one recognizable hit that could have brought back some of that enchantment from 1997.

After a decent 11 songs (11 too many, for some), The Roots came on and took charge. The audience, mourn-

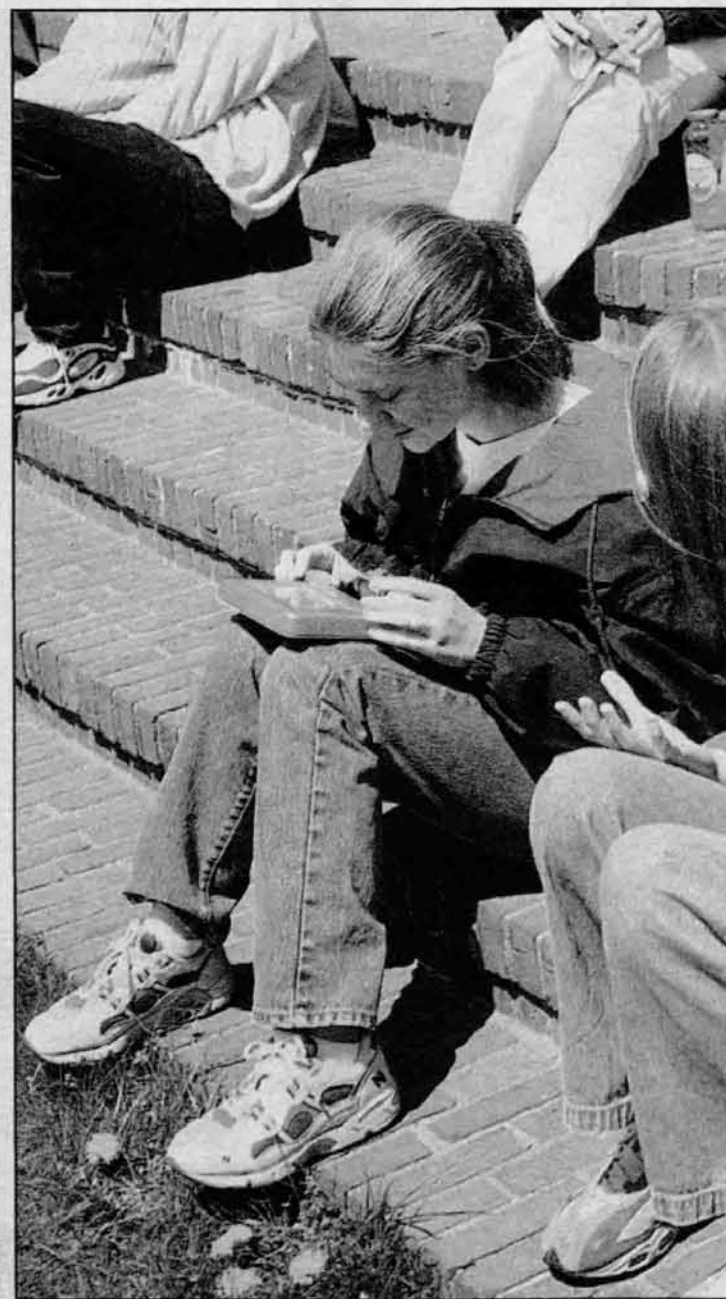
ful for having been subjected to the entire Lauryn Hill album in an extended intermission, erupted, slowly leaving the bleachers for the adapted-for-Johnson "dance floor."

The Roots, adorned in t-shirts, sweats, and jeans, put on the standard rap performance. If anything, they proved that a catchy beat will get people dancing and excited. Making use of the extensive lighting, they engaged the audience, partially because of their beat, partially because of their angst, and partially because of their audience-

approved performance skills.

Though not novel in performance, they put on the standard rap performance. Grabbing their crotches, and holding their microphones at an obtuse angle to their mouths, they screamed garbled rap into the audience. So loud were they, in fact, that their voices came out grainy (same effect as loud music with cheap speakers). But where Blues Traveler lost out with regard to audience familiarity of their music, The Roots were on home turf, playing hits all-too-common to fans.

Garnering a record audience for a Spring Weekend concert, the evening closed with a desperate crowd begging the Roots for an encore. Though Johnson's lights were turned on in confusion, the encore lasted a good 20 minutes and featured covers of nearly every popular hip hop song, from "Shake That Ass" all the way to "Aaah... Push It." Delivering to the crowd an evening well worth the time and money, Spring Weekend in effect set a high standard — the highest thus far — for years to come.



## PHOTOGRAPHS:

Opposite page, top left: Stephaniea Geraldo, a young member of the Ballet Folklorico Monte Alban, dances on the Student Center steps at the International Fair on Friday.

PHOTO BY NATHAN COLLINS — THE TECH

Opposite page, bottom: Members of the MIT Varsity Swim team, (left to right) Christina M. Wilbert '01, Deliah Hou '03, Allison A. Fielder '02, LeeAnn E. Hastings '04, and Zofia K. Gajdos '01, show how to "Sync or Swim" while dancing to the hit N\*Sync song "Bye Bye Bye" at Alpha Chi Omega's Lip Sync Thursday night.

PHOTO BY BEN SOLISH — THE TECH

Opposite page, top left: Charisse L. Massay '03 moves to the groove of a "survivor" routine at the AXO Lip Sync competition in Johnson on Thursday.

PHOTO BY WAN YUSOF WAN MORSHIDI — THE TECH

Center, top and bottom: Blues Traveler and The Roots played in Johnson on Friday.

PHOTOS BY ERIKA BROWN — THE TECH

Left: Ashley P. Predith G competes in a "draw yourself naked" etch-a-sketch contest during the Kresge Kickback Saturday afternoon.

PHOTO BY GARY MASKALY — THE TECH

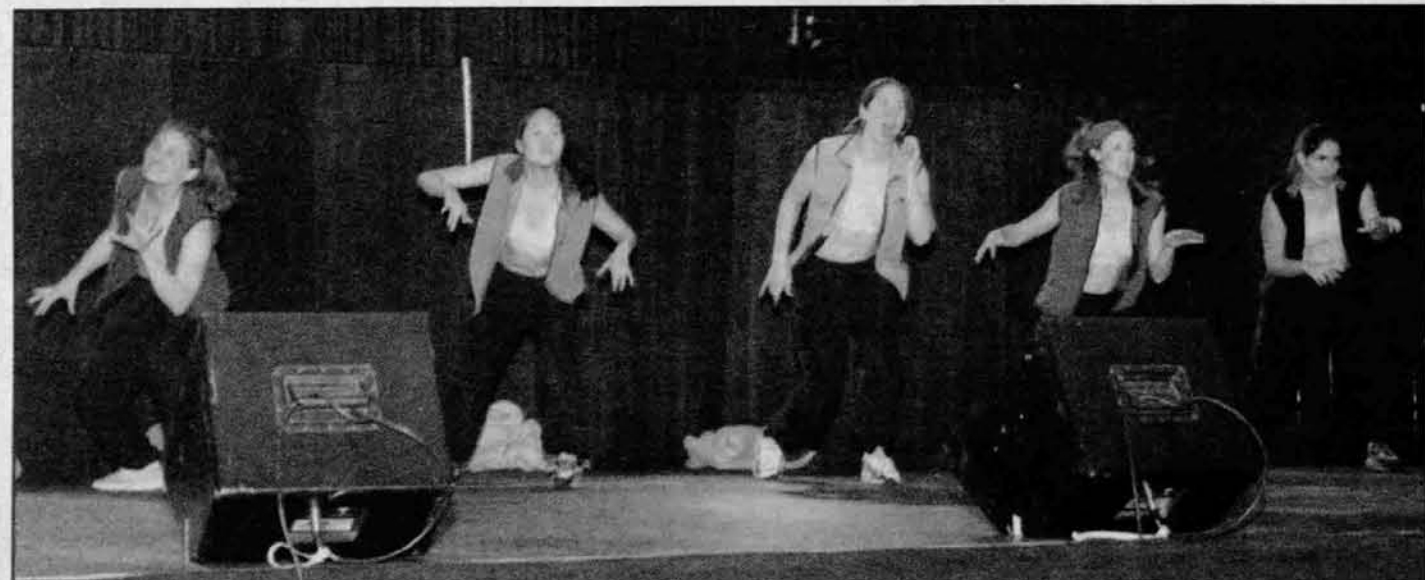
Above left: An "alien" bartender adds to the cosmic theme at Saturday's Odyssey Ball.

PHOTO BY ERIKA BROWN — THE TECH

Above: An ice sculpture "O" was the centerpiece of the Odyssey Ball, which provided a perfect mix of "chic and geek."

PHOTO BY ERIKA BROWN — THE TECH

Article by Jennifer Young and Devdoot Majumdar  
Layout by Sephir Hamilton





# THE ARTS

## THEATER REVIEW

### What Is 'Bhoma'?

*Enigmatic Dramashop Production Leaves Us Wondering*

By Lance Nathan

STAFF WRITER

'Bhoma'

Presented by Dramashop

April 26-29, May 3-5

\$6 students/seniors

Kresge Little Theatre, 8 p.m.

One might ask, what is *Bhoma*? In brief, *Bhoma* is the current Dramashop production, directed by Sudipto Chatterjee and starring Usman Akeju ('04), Albert Hung ('01), Debora Lui ('02), Anand Sarwate ('01), Chikako Sassa (G), and Kimberly Seluga ('02).

But what is it? What is *Bhoma*?

In some ways, it is wrong to call *Bhoma* a "play," though it is certainly theater. There is no plot, no consistent character — though there are many characters. It is more a multimedia performance, with light, sound, slides, movies, and of course acting.

The acting is, in fact, stunning — a *tour de force* for all six actors. For two hours with no intermission and no time off-stage, all six give performances almost exhausting to watch: leaping over and onto set pieces, writhing in acrobatic expressions of emotion, dancing, imitating machinery, and flat-out running to every point on stage (and a few offstage).

Nor is it merely the physical aspect of the play that is so grueling. All of the actors play a variety of characters, each amazingly distinct from the next, sometimes changing from one to another in a matter of moments. Hung, for instance, is at times a mechanical typist, a sniveling farmer, and a evangelist-like peasant enthusing over the opportunity to educate his son and send him to America.

Indeed, any show with images and movies,

projected onto screens in the background, runs the risk of losing the audience's attention if the performances from the actors aren't strong enough to maintain focus on them. Chatterjee never lets this happen; the projected images supplement the action without supplanting it, because of the performances he has elicited from the actors and a staging that is consistently active and interesting. His direction makes good use of the acting space, often positioning two actors on opposite sides of the stage, occasionally sending the actors into the audience. As a result, audience members turn from passive observers into active observers, one step away from being active participants, vital to the theme of the show.

But what is *Bhoma*? What is it about? What is the theme?

Well. Ah. That's the biggest flaw with the show. Certainly the audience must be drawn in, certainly the audience must feel responsible for the injustices and horrors portrayed and the apathy about them, but to what end? Perhaps the play may be about *Bhoma*, who is discussed for a few long scenes, but those scenes come late in the play, and earlier scenes that mention *Bhoma* leave us uncertain. One of Sassa's characters seems to have "discovered" *Bhoma*, but she cannot articulate what *Bhoma* is when pressed, and the scene shifts not long after.

Love is a recurring theme, but as a background presence and not a topic; Akeju proclaims, a number of times, "I loved a girl once," but this always sends his listeners into gales of

laughter and merciless teasing before he can explain. "The blood of fish is cold, but the blood of men is warm," he insists at first, but when told "The blood of man has grown cold," he comes to accept this pessimistic information.

Why has the blood of man grown cold? Perhaps because the gap between the poverty of India and the wealth of America (or even of India) looms so large; the Indian peasants seen throughout the show are at the mercy of richer people with no concern for their plight. Or perhaps because we have entered the nuclear age, when hating one's enemies so easily translates to killing them *en masse*, and even peaceful uses of nuclear energy are a way of hating and attacking one's descendants. Or perhaps ...

And this is exactly the problem with the

script. For the first half of the show, it offers a grim and moving picture of the poverty of India. But at some point the focus shifts, and the production becomes harder to follow. The final effect is a little overwhelming, even bewildering; on opening night, the audience couldn't even quite tell that the show had ended, and an uncertain silence filled the theatre until a crewmember in the back of the theatre started the applause.

This is so confusing! What is *Bhoma*?

*Bhoma* is a strong production, a technically stunning performance impossible not to appreciate. But at the same time, *Bhoma* is a muddled, confusing presentation difficult to understand and therefore difficult to evaluate. And if that seems contradictory and uncertain, well, that's *Bhoma*.



AGNES BORSECKI—THE TECH

MIT Dramashop presents the eclectic Indian drama *Bhoma* in Kresge Little Theater. This week-end's performances are May 3-5 at 8 p.m.

## MUSIC REVIEW

### State of the Airwaves

*Steer Roast, The Sky, and The Sea*

By Dan Katz

STAFF WRITER

Bono was right: it is a beautiful day. Granted he wasn't in the middle of Cambridge during spring, but he might as well have been. The sun's shining, birds are singing, and music's playing in the courtyard ... it's almost enough to make me forget that the House of Representatives thinks fetuses are people now. But now I unveil to you a column that, as usual, has little to do with abortion or climate.

Not much in the way of album releases this week, but lots and lots of concerts will be going on, including some MIT-related bands and, of course, Steer Roast. The week kicks off tonight with Our Lady Peace and Boston's own American Hi-Fi rolling into Avalon, (hed)PE with Non-point at Axis, and Guided By Voices, who are known for their intense marathon sets, at the Paradise. Kip Winger's at the Paradise Wednesday, and Godsmack take a break from touring arenas to do a more intimate homecoming show at Avalon. You've got to win tickets though, and if you can't get in, Nullset's playing next door at Bill's.

Friday, AC/DC bring their guitars, their wrinkles, and Buckcherry to the Fleet Center. Cibo Matto do the Somerville Theater, and the Worcester Palladium's got a bill of metal bands, including Opeth. Saturday night, it's lowercase letters night in Massachusetts: Canadian heavies finger eleven hit Axis with Boy Hits Car; blink-182 and Sum-41 are at the Palladium. Meanwhile indie rockers The Promise Ring are at the Middle East and Ocean Colour Scene (along with Ours) play the Paradise. Finally, there's a show at the VFW near Central Square featuring El Guapo, along with a couple of MIT student-associated bands: Tristan de Cunha and Words For Snow. This is sort of a grassroots thing so they'd appreciate your support; for more information, check out

<<http://www.slendermusic.com/tristan/>>.

And then there's Steer Roast. Geeta Dayal '01, who booked the very successful Voo Doo Party concert last year, set up the music for this year's Roast, and the lineup looks great. Friday night's headlined by The Mooney Suzuki, a New York rock band just off a tour with the Donnas. Also on the bill for Friday are Canadian pop act Stars, Roast-alums Reflecting Skin, and the sure-to-be-interesting openers, Technology Day Luncheon. Friday's invitation only, so if you want in, you'd better talk to somebody at Senior House who likes you.

Saturday night, the top-billed act is Neptune, a local group who make dissonant rock with scrap metal instruments. I'm more excited about the next-to-last band myself — the Minibosses — who perform rock covers of classic Nintendo theme songs. (You'll recognize them when you hear them.) Rounding out the lineup are two acts from last year: the Damn Personals and TEP's own School of the Americas. Music starts at 9 both nights.

I was at TT The Bear's Thursday night for a CD

release party with Hip Tanaka, and their new album, *The Sky Is Smaller Than The Sea*, contains some of the first material I've heard from them that makes me stop thinking of them as a local band and more like a band that's going to go places. The mix is tighter than on their last effort, *Le Jihad*, and the songwriting has developed strongly, as evidenced by "Mustang Pride," "I Don't Know What You Want Me To Say," and the hooky title track. The excitement of the occasion seemed to energize the band, as they opened enthusiastically with "Annika Sorenstam," thundered through new and old material (all of which the crowd loved) and closed with an awesome performance of "Beg." Pick up the new album and see this band live ... I have a feeling their crowds are only going to get bigger.

Ours has a tour schedule that seems to be revolving around Boston. They've already made two stops in Cambridge last month, they'll be at the Paradise opening for Ocean Colour Scene this week, and next month they're back again with Powderfinger. "Sometimes," the leadoff single from their upcoming debut, *Distorted Lullabies*, begins softly and ominously, foreshadowing a Deftones style before leaping into crashes of cymbals and guitars. The comparison to Radiohead is obvious ... the lead vocalist owes Thom Yorke royalties and the instrumentation sounds like it was pulled from *The Bends* (except for the main riff, which is clearly from "Talk Show Host.") Ours apply darker tones though, and they attempt art-rock with goth-rock shadings, placing them closer on the musical map to Muse or VAST. Though the single is intriguing, it doesn't really carve out its own niche. I'll reserve judgment until the album hits stores.

Being ... sucked ... toward ... sunshine ... Before I go catch some rays, I'll do my usual whining for e-mail <[airwaves@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:airwaves@the-tech.mit.edu)> and note that a lot of this week's content was shaped by reader response. If you like what you see, tell me to keep it that way, and if not, tell me to fix it. Until next time, go outside for a change, and keep expanding your horizons.



CLAY PATRICK MCBRIDE

Guided by Voices will be performing their intense marathon sets at the Paradise tonight.



## BOOK REVIEW

# The Sevens Sins of Memory

## Memory's Fallibility

By Izzat Jarudi

STAFF WRITER

Written by Daniel Schacter  
Published by Houghton Mifflin  
\$25.00

It is not an obscure fact among people of all cultures, times, and disciplines that memory is critical to human identity. Memories store the past — our former thoughts and experiences — and thus define how we feel and act in the future. What is less understood about the mechanism of memory, however, is how the brain manages the flood of sensory information that a human being confronts every day. How are relevant pieces of information selected from among the deluge and organized for later conscious retrieval in long-term memory?

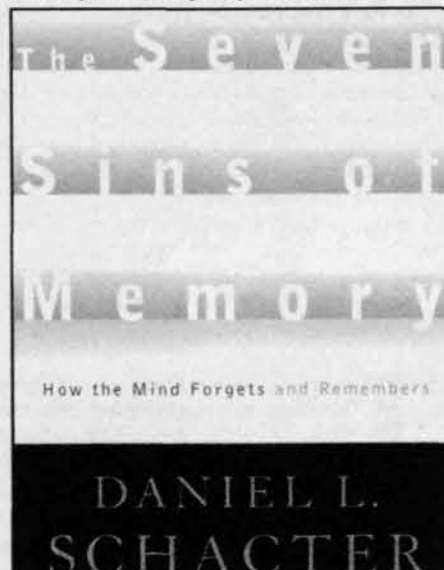
Daniel Schacter, chairman of the Psychology Department of Harvard University and one of the world's experts on memory, offers the best answer I have encountered to that question in his new book *The Seven Sins of Memory*. He not only presents a lucid synthesis of current research on how the mind remembers, but also on how the mind forgets.

We become most aware of our memory when it fails us, when we forget where we put our keys or when we remember something differently from the way it happened. Schacter recognizes that tendency and structures his discussion of memory around seven of its "sins" — transience, absent-mindedness, blocking, misattribution, suggestibility, bias, and persistence.

The first three are "sins of omission" in which we can't remember something we want to remember. Transience occurs when memories fade over time, absent-mindedness when we don't pay enough attention to what we need to

remember, and blocking when we can't spit out a name or word that is on the tip of our tongue.

The last four are "sins of commission" in which we remember something but it is either distorted or unwanted. These tend to be less innocuous with profound implications for the legal system, from the reliability of eyewitness testimony to the frequency of false confessions.



Misattribution occurs when we confuse the source of a memory, suggestibility when a false memory is implanted as a result of leading questions, comments, or suggestions, bias when our current knowledge and beliefs lead us to revise memories of our previous experiences, and persistence when memories of disturbing events linger despite our best efforts to forget them.

Schacter devotes a chapter to each sin, dis-

cussing their consequences for our lives and our understanding of memory through vivid examples from history, current events, and everyday life as well as an effective review of the scientific literature. In addition, he considers ways to counter memory's sins, both assessing current methods (including popular approaches like taking ginkgo to reduce transience) and presenting his own ideas.

Schacter ends his book with some speculation about the origins of these lapses, mistakes, and distortions of memory. After filling two hundred pages with a discussion of memory's imperfections and the harmful effects they can have on our lives, he anticipates an interesting question: Isn't this evidence of poor system design by natural selection? He explains why he still believes that "memory is a mainly reliable guide to our pasts and futures" by arguing that "each of the seven sins is a by-product of otherwise desirable and adaptive features of the human mind." After all, not everything about us is adaptive. For example, Schacter explains that the sin of persistence may be the painful consequence of a memory system that doesn't let us forget events that could threaten survival.

Clearly, this book is not only for students in Course IX (Brain and Cognitive Sciences), although I wouldn't be surprised if it became required reading for classes in that department very soon. Schacter has written a comprehensive (and concise) book on memory, accessible to anyone interested in how science today thinks we remember and forget the past. He simply does everything right in *The Seven Sins of Memory*, with elegant writing that smoothly integrates a discussion of current memory research with its undeniable impact on all our lives.

## CONCERT REVIEW

# Ten Degree Chill

## The Next Big Thing

By Jeremy Baskin

STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, as a West Campus barbeque near Kresge ran out of food within minutes of its starting time, leaving only a smattering of people and Nantucket Nectars samples, other Spring Weekend barbecues proved to be exciting parties throughout the day.

Bexley's Beast Roast focused on a simple enough theme of good food and good music. The food, on top of the usual burgers, hot dogs, and fries, included such delights as grilled portabello mushrooms, kielbasa, marinated tofu, and chicken. Different bands were featured throughout the afternoon, ranging from hard rock to funk.

Ten Degree Chill, a funk band made up of brothers from Theta Delta Chi, came on at 5, just as the sun started to leave the Bexley courtyard. It didn't take too long before things heated up, as the band's first song, "Get Up," got some people up and dancing, or at least shaking their bodies.

The songs that followed displayed the attractive quality of this band — their multi-dimensional nature. Eric Gunther G, an outstandingly original and able keyboard player in his own right, is also a vocalist and "beat-box" for the group, meaning that he uses his voice to make percussive sounds, including those of a scratching record and yelps, like a modern-day scat singer. Turn your head away for a moment, and when you turn back, you'll be amazed that one person is making all those sounds.

And Gunther is just a small part of the group. Tenor saxophonist and flutist Chris Rakowski '02 and trombonist Dan Halperin '04, both members of the Festival Jazz Ensemble, proved to be excellent as the horn section, playing with a good ensemble. The fluctuating outdoor temperature attempted to wreak havoc with their intonation, but these players managed quite well nonetheless.

"Shmoke" and "Spanish Fly" gave Rakowski a chance to show off his lyrical side, as both numbers featured mellow saxophone and flute solos, respectively. Halperin's swinging trombone followed suit in both songs. Both of the wind players, when their solos were in fast, upbeat songs, helped to create a festive atmosphere, as some people in the crowd got up and gyrated along with the music. Senior Justin Raade's guitar solos were good too, as he used the right kind of effects for bringing out the funky nature of the pieces.

Rego Sen '03, a vocalist and keyboard player, did his best to get the crowd involved, even cracking a joke late in the show, noting that there was still some "sitting down" being perpetrated, and that Bexley would lose its rush points if everyone didn't get up and dance. Sen and Gunther took turns playing on an authentic Fender Rhodes piano that the group recently acquired. The Rhodes' sound was genuine when it was present, but it would have been nice for the keyboard to be featured a bit more.

Bassist Mike Fabio '04 and drummer Adam Nazro from Berklee College of Music provided excellent support. A funk band, no matter how good its vocalists, horn section, and keyboard players are, cannot surpass mediocrity without a solid bassist and drummer. Right from the first note of "Get Up," through the melodious bass solo at the beginning of "Spanish Fly," one could tell that this group is worth listening to.

A little more than half of the songs played were originals. In terms of quality of composition and performance, there wasn't an obvious dichotomy between songs that were covers and those that were originals; this is yet another sign of a good group.

After one encore, the band claimed the concert was over, but they embarked on a 15-minute jam, allowing everyone a couple more turns to solo. They encouraged audience participation, and someone came up to the stage to rap, and another audience member came up to strut his stuff on the tenor saxophone.

Then Sen said for maybe the second or third time, "Ok, now it's a wrap." But it's only a wrap for now, because this band, which has already opened for Naughty By Nature and won the 2000 MIT Battle of the Bands, could be this campus's next big thing. For updates, check out the Ten Degree Chill's website, <<http://tendegreechill.mit.edu>>.



DOUG CURRAN

Race car driver Sylvester Stallone and Burt Reynolds are deep in conversation in Renny Harlin's plotless action film *Driven*.

By Joseph Graham

STAFF WRITER

Directed by Renny Harlin  
Written by Sylvester Stallone  
Starring: Sylvester Stallone, Burt Reynolds, Kip Pardue, and Til Schweiger  
Rated PG-13

What do you get when you team up action film director Renny Harlin with action film star Sylvester Stallone? Well, the last time Harlin and Stallone worked together the answer was a 225 million dollar 1993 box-office smash, *Cliffhanger*. Since that time Harlin has gone on to direct a couple of modestly successful hits (*Long Kiss Goodnight* and *Deep Blue Sea*), while Stallone's box office draw slowly dwindled. This time the answer is a plotless action movie.

Harlin mixes actual Grand Prix stock footage, choreographed stunt driving, and computer-generated effects with spectacular results. The racing scenes of the film are truly visceral. From the driver's point-of-view through cameras bolted to the front and rear of these high-speed machines, we get a shot that is as much impressive as it is fun. These cars (if they can be called that) practically fly at speeds well over 200 miles per hour. With the roar and excitement of the crowd, the chaos, and last minute preparations in the pit, all the action in *Driven* is well done. The original soundtrack by Brian Transeau also adds much of the excitement to the action.

Have I mentioned the best part, and the only reason why some watch motor sports? The crashes. *Driven* has lots of them. The moment that brings all racing fans to their feet is when one driver attempts to overtake another by squeezing through an opening with only inches allowed for error. Although the purist of fans may disagree, when one of these moments loses control and cars take flight and literally disintegrate before our eyes, the adrenaline rush and the sight of something that we just don't see everyday is well worth the price of admission. Then the moment is gone and we are brought back down by the frightening reality that someone is actually in that twisted piece of scrap. Again, *Driven* mixes well the real with the staged by using slow motion shots and precision editing. We feel we are almost part of the action. Unfortunately, as with all of Harlin's films, *Driven* lacks any kind of convincing real human drama.

This is where *Driven* stalls out. Stallone plays Joe Tanto, a seasoned veteran of the racing circuit brought out of retirement by racecar team owner and one time partner and friend Carl Henry, played by Burt Reynolds. Tanto is hired to mold and mentor rookie driver Jimmy Bly (Kip Pardue), who after winning a number of races has now lost his edge to rival Beau Brandenburg (Til Schweiger). Stallone's screenplay gives us no more than that. The dialogue and character exchanges become nothing more than segues to the action surrounding the races, which happen about every 15 minutes throughout the film. In the opening scene

Beau's girlfriend Sophia (Estella Warren) sadly asks him, "What am I in all of this?" As he tightens his gloves without looking at her, he answers, "A distraction." That is what this scattered plot becomes, a distraction. Prior to one race as Jimmy and Joe proudly sit on their vehicles eagerly waiting for the green light so they can go to work, the camera pans the auto kennel and we see many of the other drivers praying, kissing their wives, or thinking quietly alone. One driver tapes a photo to his chest. It may be a bit of a melodrama, but it is interesting. Maybe they should have made a movie about that guy.

While most of the action does have a certain amount of realism, *Driven* has one moment that stretches realism to the limit. I don't know about you, but whenever I see an 850-horsepower Formula One open-wheeled Champ-Cart, only one question comes to mind: What would happen if one of these things got loose on the open road? Well, Harlin unleashes two of these turbo-charged rockets with a chase on the Chicago streets in a sequence that is almost laughable. This is both the high point and the low point of the film. As Stallone roars by a group of people standing outside a nightclub, a woman's skirt raises and in another scene, a manhole cover is violently lifted and thrown in a glass-shattering wake. These are just two of the countless unbelievable sight gags.

In the end, *Driven* is what it is — a plotless action movie. Is it entertaining and fun? Yes, but only half of it.



## THEATER REVIEW

# 'Generation': Interesting Idea, No Follow Through

## Sci-Fi Show Starring MIT and Harvard Graduate Students Lacks Polish

By Lance Nathan  
STAFF WRITER

*'Generation'*  
Written and directed by Chen-Hsiang Yeang  
G Starring Wen Huang, Ying-Hua Chen, Shu-Han Huang, Clement Chu, Morris Huang, Bruce Yu, Amber Tan G.

Chen-Hsiang Yeang, a graduate student in electrical engineering and computer science, directed his play *Generation* last weekend in Kresge Little Theatre. The ambitious script follows several generations of a single family through a dystopian and post-apocalyptic setting, alternately exploring their particular lives and larger philosophical questions.

Unfortunately, the production fell short in a number of ways. Faced with a difficult script, the actors did the best they could, but the shortcomings of both the writing and the technical work often prevented the work from reaching the heights to which it aspired.

The first act of the play concerns Ap (Wen Huang) and his wife Beca (Ying-Hua Chen), a cyborg created as part of a government project to awaken the spirits of computers. After her trial, she and her husband are cast out of the city and forbidden from touching any machine again. Somehow (how is not quite clear), Beca becomes human, and she teaches Ap the "lost art" of dreaming, enabling him to make a living as a performer reciting his dreams at a nightclub owned by June (Shu-Han Huang).

Ten years later, when martial law is declared, June sends Ap, Beca, and their two children Big (Clement Chu) and Little (Morris Huang) back to the city to see Ap's mother. They never arrive; the children are separated from their parents and play a war-simulation video game.

In the second act, we learn that a nuclear war occurred just as the first act ended; Big (Wen Huang again) and Little (Bruce Yu) hypothesize that it was their game that caused it. As they crawl through the landscape trying to survive, Big drinks from radiation-poisoned water and becomes female (Amber Tan). Big and Little live as savages until, having become lovers, they agree to build a house and cultivate plants to aid the return of civilization. Nothing grows for nine months, until Little, unable to sleep, talks to a passing monk — her uncle Chi (Paul Chai), though neither of them knows of the relationship — who offers her a pill that will end her life as a sacrifice for the land, while allowing her children to be born. Her male self tries to stop her, but after a discussion they agree that it is for the best, and the play ends with Little waking up to discover the crops in full bloom and his sister gone, with their five children — from infant to age ten — in her place.

Yeang's script, combining mysticism with science and surreal humor with human drama, shows great promise. Frankly, however, it needed another rewrite before being staged. Sometimes, the problem was with the English — one notable line in the second scene was "What does all of this matter with me?"

But the problems with the writing went deeper than the occasional garbling of syntax. The first act, for instance, is set in a totalitarian society ("Orwellian," the publicity tells us, though it was more reminiscent of Huxley's *Brave New World* science-over-nature setting), hinging on a project to create a cyborg. Guards stand impassive and speak in monotones, citizens recite their identification numbers to disembodied voices. Nevertheless, people use cell phones and PDAs, and refer to the "Department of Defense"; one guard even looks at a pocket watch. In a science fiction milieu, these pieces of technology and terminology, which should be long archaic, are jarring.

The first act contains a number of philosophical digressions on the nature of humanity, difficult to assimilate and in many ways distracting from the story. Real passion lurks in the trial of Beca, the cyborg, and in her husband Ap being detained to prevent him from testifying in her defense. The emotions feel dampened, however, because Ap's interrogator speaks at length on the nature of dreams and humanity. The philosophy, which comes across as a treatise to be considered along with the plot but not part of it, slows down the show.

This type of pacing problem, in fact, permeates the show, and constitutes what may be the largest flaw with the script. The play opens with Ap visiting Beca in prison, but before he can

see her he must recite his ID number, and hers, and a few more numbers, none of them shorter than twenty digits. Though this may set the scene, it also results in a slow pace for the entire opening scene.

In a similarly bad decision, the second act begins with Big and Little, blind from radiation, talking for ten minutes before suddenly regaining their sight. On the stage, this meant long monologues in pitch darkness, followed by a bright light pointed out from the stage, blinding the audience. The appropriateness of the effect does not change the fact that the scene becomes boring and ends with severe irritation.

In contrast, there are many aspects of the story that the script does not explore sufficiently. After Beca's transformation from cyborg to human, she becomes a background character to Ap and June, bearing and then looking after the children but doing little else. Big's change from male to female is startling at first, but accepted without comment after (except for a nice moment when, starting to dance, both Big and Little try to lead). Big and Little's relationship is first mentioned in an offhand comment, with no exploration of the decisions that led to their incest.

Of course, a strong production can often overcome a weak script. In this case, unfortunately, the production was not quite up to the task. There were certainly moments where it was, where the staging was enthralling enough to overcome the writing, and even scenes in which the writing was faultless. These moments, however, were not consistent enough to save the show.

Many of the actors gave fine performances; Shu-Han Huang, for instance, gave June more depth than any other character outside Ap's family. Wen Huang, too, displayed a nice versatility as both Ap, usually quiet and innocent but with a melodramatic streak, and his son Big, stronger and more relaxed. Clement Chu and Morris Huang interacted perfectly as the young brothers, a little scared at the separation but quickly fascinated by a forbidden game. And Amber Tan as Big and Bruce Yu as Little worked together well, each showing their own sort of strength and dedication.

However, even at their best, the cast could not overcome the limitations of the script and the technical work. As noted before, some of the staging worked wonderfully. When Big emerged from the water with his back to the audience and his face covered, finally turning at Little's insistence to show that he was female, the effect was breathtaking. The video game, in which two armies of warriors face off, also played well, with eight leopard-print-clad combatants clashing in stylized battle movements.

But moments like these tended to be exceptions. The trial scene involved a number of different locations at once — Ap's detention cell, the courtroom, some flashbacks with Ap and Beca-which occupied five circles of light on the stage, but the settings moved from circle to circle as if the director needed a way to keep the actors moving. Some effects occurred behind a white sheet, the action visible as colored shadows, and while this worked for the poisoned watering hole, it did not for Beca's post-trial memory wipe: the shadows were doubled by the lights, making the movements hard to distinguish.

The lighting and sound were also uneven. Chen-Pang Yeang's sound design was not problematic, but the sounds were invariably too loud and cut off abruptly rather than fading. Sing-Ming Ho's light design tended toward the garish, sometimes appropriate for the dystopian mood, but sometimes not: June, when sitting at her desk in the nightclub, was lit half in red and half in green. The circles of light were effective, except when they lit an actor from the chin down. The infrequent use of the spotlight was not too bad, except when it shone directly on Ap's reflective gold cloak during his dream performance — a problem as much with Yu Chen and Chia-Chin Cheng's costuming as the lighting.

In the end, what *Generation* needed most was more polish. The script clearly shows promise, and the performance had all the elements necessary for a successful show. With more time to fix the pacing of the script and more practice with the lights, sound, and scene changes, this might have been an excellent production. Instead, it was merely unpolished and confused, with flashes of excellence showing the potential lying underneath.

## CONCERT REVIEW

# BSO Recap: Seiji's Mistake, Murray's Storytelling

## Brendel, Perahia Play at Symphony Hall

By Jonathan Richmond  
ADVISORY BOARD

All-Beethoven Program  
Consecration of the House Overture  
Symphony No. 8 Piano  
Concerto No. 5, Emperor  
Alfred Brendel, soloist  
Seiji Ozawa, conductor  
Symphony Hall, April 27

Works by Mozart, Schubert, and Chopin  
Murray Perahia, A Solo Piano Recital  
Symphony Hall, April 29, 2001

To prove I'm not wrong, I'm playing my wild and driven recording of Nicolaus Harnoncourt conducting the Chamber Orchestra of Europe in Beethoven's *Symphony No. 8* as I write. It is alive with tension, filled with excitement, and a demonstration that a symphony regarded as one of Beethoven's lesser creations is still full of wonder.

I'm not wrong: Seiji Ozawa let an opportunity slip by presenting a pleasant but under-rehearsed and altogether banal performance of Beethoven's *Eighth* last Friday night. Ozawa's shapeless and lethargic account suggested this was some sort of warm up for the major Beethoven treat that was to follow the intermission. But rejecting an invitation to find the insight that is everywhere awaiting discovery in a work of brilliance and energy is no

way to treat the composer whose very name looks down from the arch above the performers in Symphony Hall.

Things changed markedly for the appearance of Alfred Brendel — back after missing two concerts due to an arm injury — for a performance of Beethoven's fifth and final piano concerto in this series of three BSO all-Beethoven programs in which all five have been played. The performances of both soloist and orchestra were stunning: indeed, they were intertwined in a heavenly, if at heart organic, symbiosis.

Brendel played with a natural fluency that highlighted and empowered the musical message rather than the messenger, making the hammers striking metal strings almost incidental to the exchange of sublime ideas between Brendel, orchestra, and awestruck audience. The opening *Allegro* saw Brendel develop gripping suspense, details bursting out in ever-changing coloration, while majestic string playing added to tensions, and glowing winds



COURTESY FLEETBOSTON CELEBRITY SERIES

Pianist Murray Perahia, an artist at the peak of his powers, played at Symphony Hall on Sunday.

danced sensuously with the soloist.

The slow movement was rapturous. String playing was sensitive, opening the movement with an understated cry of deep lament. Brendel seemed to find revelation in every phrase, while making the shaping of each note dissolve into the logic of a perfectly-conceived whole. He made the exultant *Rondo: Allegro ma non troppo*, an essay in glory and joy. His ability to effortlessly articulate multifaceted ideas with an invisible virtuosity made for a mentally-involving as well as exciting finale, and Ozawa's orchestra was equally caught up in the celebration.

Still more piano playing was on offer this past weekend with Murray Perahia giving a Sunday afternoon solo recital of Mozart, Schubert, and Chopin in Symphony Hall. Perahia can't resist adding a touch of the romantic to his Mozart, and the *Fantasia in C Minor*, K. 475 was played with gentle caresses and dreamy inuendo. Perahia's account of the Schubert *Sonata in B-flat Major*, D. 960, was quite introverted, the soloist seemingly lost in the work's quiet drama, while leaving the door open for the audience to join him in sonata movements made into a series of storytelling songs without words. The concert ended with Chopin, and Perahia provided a well-sprung account of the *Polonaise in A*, Opus 40, No. 1 and showed a colorful playfulness for five *Etudes* from Op. 25.

The three pianists recently heard in Boston, Alfred Brendel, Robert Levin (standing in for Brendel for the Beethoven second and fourth piano concerti), and Perahia have each displayed quite distinct identities: Brendel the poetic creator of inspired wholes which don't seem to come from the sum of their parts; Levin the wild lyricist who evokes the manic brilliance of Beethoven with pathos as well as adrenaline; and Perahia, the dreamer, evoking myriad thoughts and emotions with his every touch. Liars all, who deceitfully place their individual imprints on well-loved music, they each draw us closer to a musical truth which can only be established by the imagination and drama of every new live performance.

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# MIT Medical Center Extends Outpatient Therapy Coverage

Last Wednesday, MIT Medical announced that the Extended MIT Hospital Insurance Plan for MIT students will add coverage for unlimited outpatient psychotherapy visits with no copayments, beginning September 1.

Under this plan, there will no longer be an annual visit limit, and the coverage will be raised from \$50 per visit to unlimited coverage. It will also change inpatient coverage from 60 to 120 days per benefit period — the second improvement in the Extended Plan outpatient mental health benefit this year.

This improved coverage applies to outpatient individual or group psychotherapy, and it covers services provided by a licensed Massachusetts Blue Cross Blue Shield participating psychiatrist, psychologist, independent clinical social worker, mental health counselor or mental health clinical nurse specialist, when referred by MIT Medical's Mental Health Service.

"Perhaps we can encourage students to attack the issues of stress and depression with the same diligence they attack their problem sets, by using all of the best tools available, including talking to someone else," said William M. Kettyle, head of MIT Medical. "We're looking forward to receiving the recommendations of the Mental Health Task Force, and will continue to work to strengthen MIT Medical's Mental Health Service."

New state regulations require that student insurance plans offer improved mental health benefits. However, these benefits only apply to a limited number of severe conditions. The law ignores the large group of patients with less severe issues.

"We're going substantially beyond what the law requires, so that the new benefit will apply to all MIT students who enroll in the Extended Plan," said Ellen Offner, MIT Medical's director of health plans and finance, in a recent *Tech Talk* article.

Offner also said that it wasn't yet clear how much next year's Extended Plan rates would have to go up in order to help pay for the new benefits.

— Eun J. Lee

## CAC Considers Regulating Music On Stratton Steps

The Campus Activities Complex is considering a proposal regulating the use of music on the Student Center steps. The proposal comes after a complaint from a resident of McCormick Hall, Cynthia K. Johanson '01, about how loud the music is being played.

Johanson said she was disturbed by the music when it was played to promote Spring Weekend on April 23, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. "Music played from the student center steps is very audible from the dorms surrounding Kresge Oval, contrary to what non-residents believe. Those who are most affected by music they might find distracting may not have time to spare for regaining lost productivity or pursuing alternative noise policies," Johanson said.

An e-mail was sent to other dorms that are along the perimeter of Kresge Oval, such as Bexley Hall, asking if any complaints have been made about the music and to direct responses to specific MIT administrators.

An opposing e-mail was sent by McCormick resident Selam Daniel '02, asking students to support

music on the steps.

McCormick Housemaster Charles Stewart III said, "This is more like a noise-ordinance-type complaint usually made in the urban environment. We need to know if the Student Center and the surrounding areas form a sort of amphitheater that makes it possibly louder in the McCormick tower compared to Kresge Oval."

A lot of McCormick residents seem to disagree with the noise complaint. "Yes, sometimes I can hear it faintly in my room, but it isn't a big deal, because I can easily ignore the music when I want to," said resident Preeti Chadha '03.

Other students in McCormick said that they had not even been notified that the CAC was considering regulating the music. "I am a McCormick resident and I had no idea about this initiative. All I can tell you is that I am not in favor of stopping music on the steps," said Ivana L. Sturdivant '04.

A decision by the CAC should be reached within the coming week.

"I would like to see a policy in place that takes into consideration students who might prefer to pursue their studies aggressively while encouraging and maintaining a campus community," Johanson said.

— Efrén Gutierrez

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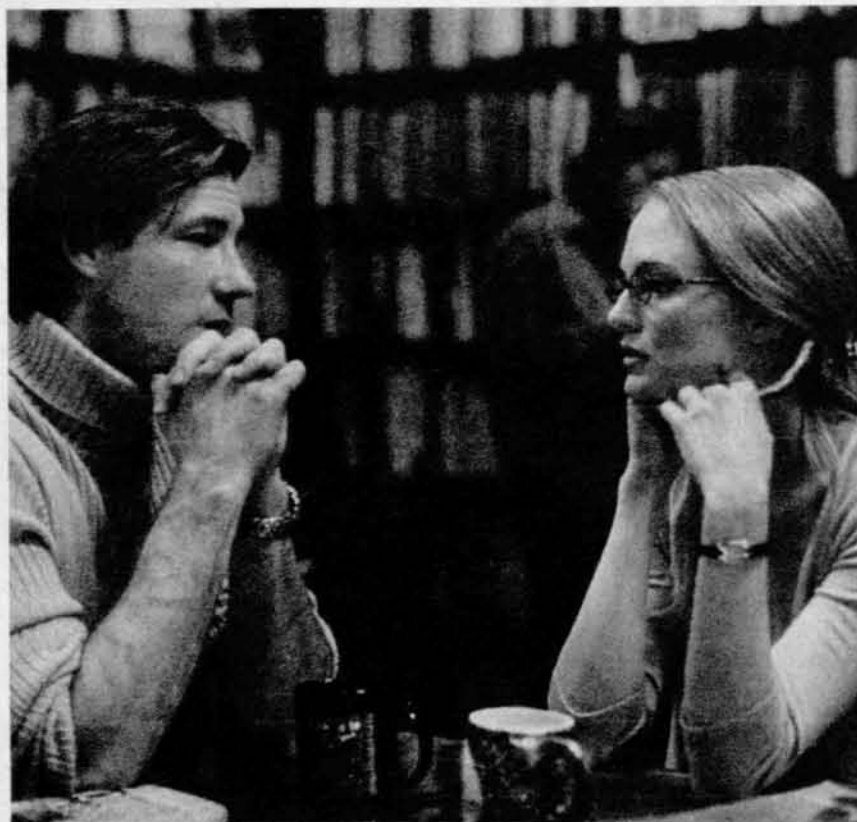
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# ATO Apologizes for Altercation Involving The Roots

ATO, from Page 1

within eight minutes of the 911 call, and MIT police were also on the scene.

The incident did not hinder the performance of the band that night. Though there were subtle references to the incident during some of the songs, The Roots still performed in front of a large crowd and even returned for a 30-minute encore.

The Roots' manager, Tina Farris, termed the incident "really stupid." Farris and other members of The Roots purported that more racial epithets were used during the scuffle, a charge which is contradicted by ATO's account of the episode.

## Campus leaders react

MIT President Charles M. Vest wrote a letter on Saturday in response to the events of the previous day.

"Yesterday an ugly and totally inexcusable incident occurred on

tions like MIT to move us beyond this and improve our world. It therefore is doubly disturbing that such behavior would occur among us. We must be a place of tolerance and community," wrote Vest.

Undergraduate Association President Peter A. Shulman '01 also issued a letter regarding a possible UA response to the incident between the hip-hop group and the fraternity.

"I think it incumbent upon us all to recognize that race issues are all but settled in this country and on this campus, very sadly. But we face the challenge of using this incident to educate rather than polarize the community. That students, both of minority and majority backgrounds, are hurt, offended, and angry about this incident is understandable — but we need to address this in a constructive, and not destructive manner," said the UA president.

IFC President Rory P. Pfeiffer '02 also weighed in on the incident when he said that, "I think they [ATO] took good first steps [in resolving the matter]."

"The house and the IFC need to deal with the alcohol issue. They are right this is a serious issue, but the racial issue is an individual one," Pfeiffer said.

## ATO issues apology

Glover issued an apology to the MIT community, sent to the mit-talk mailing list, on Monday afternoon.

"The members of Alpha Tau Omega deeply regret the incident involving two members of the performing group The Roots. We share the MIT community's concern and agree that the comment that was made from our rooftop was inexcusable and must be fairly and appropriately dealt with," wrote Glover in his apology.

When asked how the fraternity was confronting the matter, Glover said, "On Saturday evening we met and came up with specific responses [to the incident]."

"We are coming forward with the absolute truth ... and are doing anything we can, including soliciting input from the MIT community, to promote positive growth," Glover added.

Glover also expressed his concerns about the likely hearing before the CLC.

"We are certainly worried about what could come from the CLC meeting," Glover said, "but we hope our positive steps forward will help characterize our understanding of the impact of the situation ... and

that the punishment be coupled with education and opportunity."

## Faculty, students meet on Sunday

Randolph called a meeting of several groups in the MIT community to discuss the racially charged incident on Sunday.

In attendance were members of the Undergraduate Association, the Graduate Student Council, the Interfraternity Council, heads of minority student groups, senior administrators, and members of ATO.

"The Deans' office asked ATO to respond to the allegation and asked them to identify the individuals involved in the incident," said Randolph.

Shulman said, "It was a very comfortable discussion."

"[There needed to be] a perception of separating race concerns and alcohol concerns," the UA president said.

During the meeting, the brothers of ATO were allowed to present their response to the Friday incident. As part of their self-imposed punishments, the fraternity has prohibited access to the house's roof-deck for social purposes until August 15. Furthermore, the house has instituted a moratorium on all social activities.

"All the punishments were thought of beforehand by ATO in a meeting inside the house," Pfeiffer said.

Additionally, Glover said, "we plan on following up on all of these [conditions]."

To the surprise of Glover, however, 15 students also attended the meeting.

"We had no idea that any students would attend. What I had prepared for was a meeting with high-

the student body, especially the representatives of minority organizations," the ATO president said. "I just wish I could have maximized that opportunity."

## Details remain in dispute

While participants at the meeting agreed on some points, several are

established as Vest opened the meeting.

"I have spent the last two days feeling sleep-deprived, angry, sad, but also proud," Vest said. "The pride I feel comes from being at an institute full of young men and women who will lead us above America's legacy of racial turmoil.

We can work together to make this a better campus."

When asked during the forum if the comments in question were racially motivated, ATO brother Alvan Eric P. Loreto '01, acting as a representative for the living group, said, "There was no racial motivation whatsoever. It was derisive and inappropriate, but race was used as an identifier, not to attack."

"The comment was still completely inappropriate and not excusable," Loreto

said. A second question from the audience asked ATO, "If you are not guilty, why have you agreed to the terms?"

"The incident occurred on our property and caused the MIT community embarrassment," Loreto said. "The house wants to rectify that. We need to take action as a house to show that to the community."

As the meeting closed, Loreto said that the main motivations for the discussion was to clear up the facts for the people present.

"We came with open arms asking for suggestions on what to do," Loreto said. "And we wanted to squash any sentiment that ATO promotes or condones racism because it is just not true."

## Forum discusses race relations

The meeting's tone was appreciated by many of the attendees. "I think the atmosphere was excellent. People were concerned and emotional, but focused on coming to a collectively beneficial solution," Jones said. "It's my sincere hope that this meeting and others will make MIT and everyone else understand that two members of one fraternity can't be used as a scapegoat for all the racial injustices at MIT."

"We have snatched a bandage off an ugly wound. At MIT, there is racism, and I think we can use this as a catalyst," Jones said.

Mthembu also felt that progress was the most important potential outcome. "I'll be working with the committee on campus race relations to facilitate programming to address issues of sensitivity and diversity," said Mthembu.

*"Yesterday an ugly and totally inexcusable incident occurred on our campus.*

*It both angers and saddens me, and it will not be tolerated." — MIT President Charles M. Vest*

our campus. It both angers and saddens me, and it will not be tolerated," wrote Vest.

"Race in America remains a troubling matter, but we look to the leadership and good will of talented young men and women who are privileged to be part of great institu-

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*"We hope our positive steps forward will help characterize our understanding of the impact of the situation ... and that the punishment be coupled with education and opportunity." — Erik M. Glover '02, ATO President*

level administration to discuss facts and possible disciplinary action. I felt extremely underprepared to speak to student leaders in the MIT community," Glover said.

"I truly appreciated the opportunity to speak with the members of

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## MIT Department of FACILITIES

### CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

#### 70 PACIFIC STREET (GRADUATE HOUSING)

Waterproofing and backfilling of foundations may result in dust and mud, and cause noise in the surrounding area.

#### DREYFUS CHEMISTRY BUILDING

Demolition of the existing first floor west corridor wall may cause noise outside the construction area.

#### MEDIA LAB

Utility relocation work at the intersection of Main and Ames Streets is progressing south towards Amherst Street. Some parking may be eliminated and traffic rerouted during 7:00-3:00. The installation of underground conduit ductbanks will generate construction noise from machinery, trucks and equipment such as saws and jackhammers.

#### STATA CENTER

Placement of concrete on the second and third underground levels is underway. Truck deliveries may affect vehicular traffic and pedestrian wayfinding.

#### VASSAR STREET UTILITIES

Steel sheeting driven in by the railroad right of way may disrupt the occupants of nearby buildings including 44, 45 and 48. The digging of underground utilities behind buildings NW21, NW12, NW13, NW14 and NW15 may result in noise, dust and vibrations.

#### LOBBY 7

Preliminary testing of cleaning methods will be conducted this spring. Work this summer includes a cleaning of the dome and masonry, lighting replacements, and the opening of the skylight.

#### SIMMONS HALL

The placement of concrete may generate noise and affect vehicular traffic. Activity on the Vassar Street duct bank may affect pedestrian way finding.

This information provided by the MIT Department of Facilities:  
web.mit.edu/facilities/www/construction/



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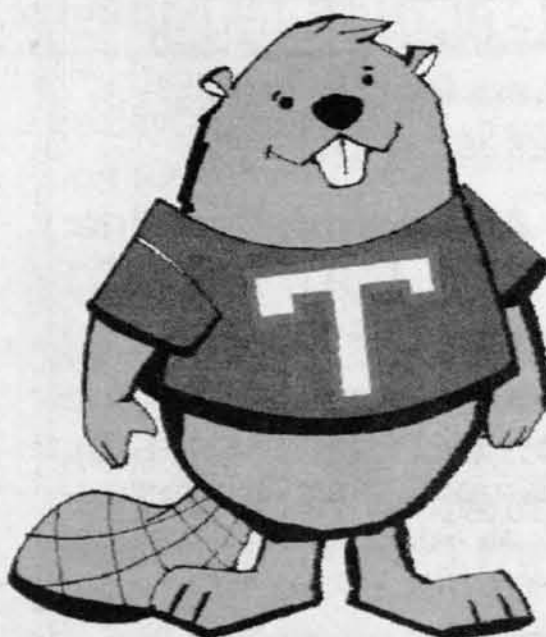
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1—4 PM  
Stratton Student  
Center 3rd Floor

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10-140 by May 1

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please contact  
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[pdcc@mit.edu](mailto:pdcc@mit.edu)



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# Guests Attend ROTC Review

ROTC, from Page 1

ened protest, which came as a surprise to the officers.

"Protesters come every year. They have every right to be here, just as we do," said Captain Dave Diaz, Marine officer instructor for the Naval ROTC unit. "Last year, the protesters were very polite and the level of professionalism that they maintained was very noteworthy. This year we were expecting a bigger crowd because of the International Fair so close by."

### Guests come to watch review

Special guests from the military, family, and friends filled the bleachers as ROTC cadets and midshipmen from MIT, Harvard, Tufts, and Wellesley marched in formation around Berry Field and performed a series of maneuvers following the orders of their battalion and wing commanders.

"It's good for the parents to see what their sons and daughters have been working for," said Carrie Garceau '03.

Spectators came from as close as Harvard and as far away as Puerto Rico to show their support for the cadets and midshipmen.

Although the ceremony itself usually lasts only an hour, it is a highly valued tradition among all those in attendance.

"It is important to uphold this tradition so that we may honor the people that came before us. This is a proud legacy of long lines of military officers and the many regiments that marched before us," said Ryan K. Owen '03, an Air Force ROTC cadet.

In preparation for the pass in review, ROTC participants from all four schools gathered for additional training throughout the past week.

### Ceremony reflects dedication

Many were thoroughly impressed and pleased with the troop's performance.

"I am a great believer in ROTC and the values that it teaches, military values that remain with people all of their lives. [ROTC] places [the participants] one step ahead of all those they serve," said Winterhalter.

"These undergraduates do everything that all the other undergraduates do, plus 20 more hours of training and academics. This takes unparalleled dedication and commitment," Diaz said.

After the pass in review, an awards banquet and ceremony was conducted in Kresge Auditorium. Medals and plaques of recognition were given out to cadets and midshipmen that have shown outstanding performance in various areas of military and academic discipline.

# BARBECUE

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When: Wednesday May 2nd

Where: Courses for Lunch

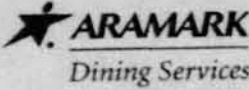
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Walker for lunch

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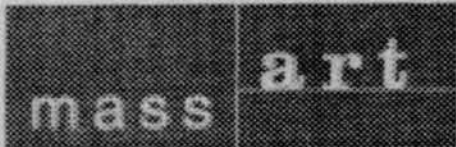
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## MIT UNDERGRADUATES

\*\*\*\*\*

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For more information please call the Visual Arts Program at 253-5229 or email [slb@mit.edu](mailto:slb@mit.edu).

## Solution to Crossword

from page 10

S	H	A	D		S	W	A	T	S		M	U	S	H	
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P	U	T	T		C	R	O	A	K		E	L	B	E	
S	E	E	S		T	E	E	N	S		R	O	A	D	



## Eta Kappa Nu congratulates its newly inducted members :

Alexandra Georgiana Ianculescu  
Amy Mon-Ning Chu  
Amy Violet Mueller  
Andrew Allinson Lamb  
Andrew Scott Crane  
Ang-Chih Kao  
Arjun R. Narayanswamy  
Basel Y Al-Naffouri  
Beijia Zhang  
Benjamin Avery Chambers  
Carlos Alberto Gomez Uribe  
Cecile Eliane Jeannie Le Cocq  
Chen-Wen Huang  
Christopher Daniel Avrich  
Chi Ming Hubert Chen  
Chia-Hao La  
Chi-Bong Chan  
Christopher Thomas Lyon  
Chuohao Yeo  
Cliff Hill Hodges  
Cynthia Mae Chow  
Daniel Matthew Guy Ho Levy  
David Chunyi Lee  
David Paul Woodruff  
Derek Scott Lam  
Eamon Francis Walsh  
Edmund Chou

Elizabeth Seon-wha Kim  
Emina Torlak  
Eric Anthony Dauler  
Esa Han Hsien Masood  
Esosa Odolgie Amayo  
Gabriel Alexander Reinstein  
Gary Chiaray Lee  
Georgi Pavlinov Peev  
Gregory David Dennis  
Hesky Fisher  
Jared Showalter  
Jeffrey Michael Bartelma  
Jennifer Huang  
Jennifer Louie  
Jeremy Isaac Silber  
John C. Ho  
John Gu  
Johnathan N. S. Whitney  
Joseph Panganiban  
Judy Yann-Yun Cen  
Kalpak Dilip Kothari  
Kan Liu  
Keith Allen Bonawitz  
Ketan Dineshchandra Vyas  
Kenneth Kwan-Wai Yu  
Kevin Edward Atkinson  
Lee Chuan Lin

Ling Bao  
Lorenzo Manalac Lorilla  
Mansim Connie Cheng  
Manu Seth  
Marcia Yeojin Jung  
Margaret Frances Nervevna  
Mark Pipes  
Meng-Jiao Wu  
Norimasa Yoshida  
Obrad R. Scepanovic  
Paul Hamsoo Kim  
Piyajit Phanaphat  
Raj Dandage  
Ralph Raif Harik  
Rebecca Anne Hitchcock  
Regina Sam  
Reid Edward Williams  
Rishi Kumar  
Robert Walter Kochman, Jr.  
Ryan Nathan Lang  
Sameer Ramakant Dhond  
Samitha Samaranayake  
Sheetal Jain  
Saumil Gandhi  
Senkodan Thevendran  
Sourav Raj Dey  
Stanley Wanchung Cheung

Steven Benjamin Lustbader  
Thomas Richard Woodfin  
Tien-Lok Jonathan Lau  
Timo Burkard  
Toliver Jue  
Toh Ne Win  
Victor Shukin Yeung  
Vida Uyen Ha  
Vijay Divi  
Vivian Yin Wing Ma  
Xian Xiang

### New Executive Committee

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Hesky Fisher  
Vice-President:  
Arjun Narayanswamy  
Treasurer:  
Jennifer Huang  
Recording Secretary:  
Andrew Lamb  
Corresponding Secretary:  
Victor Yeung  
Bridge Correspondent:  
Vida Ha



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Honors Society, Beta Theta Chapter  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
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DAVE PHILLIPS  
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# Seneviratne Discusses Upcoming Plans for the GSC

By Nancy L. Keuss  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Last month, Dilan A. Seneviratne was elected president of the Graduate Student Council for the coming academic year. *The Tech* sat down with Seneviratne to discuss his involvement with the GSC and his plans for the upcoming year.

**The Tech:** How did you first get involved with the Graduate Student Council?

**Seneviratne:** I got involved about a year and a half ago when I came to MIT. I met a few individuals who were a part of the GSC, and I became involved in the career fair. Afterwards, I attended some meetings of the Academics Research and Careers Committee, which oversees the Career Fair from the GSC side. During these meetings, I became particularly concerned about teaching issues in graduate classes. We were looking at ways of improving teaching and advising. I soon became the chair of the Academics Research and Careers Committee, and then one year after that ran for office.

**The Tech:** In what direction do you see the GSC moving under your leadership?

**Seneviratne:** The GSC has a continuous agenda. We have projects that we continue which have been advocated in the past. A lot of these issues fall under three specific areas related to quality of life: the first is in terms of work, including issues such as stipends and benefits for students, health and dental care. The second area relates to housing-related issues like rent levels on campus, and the last area deals with more general issues that deal with the student body.

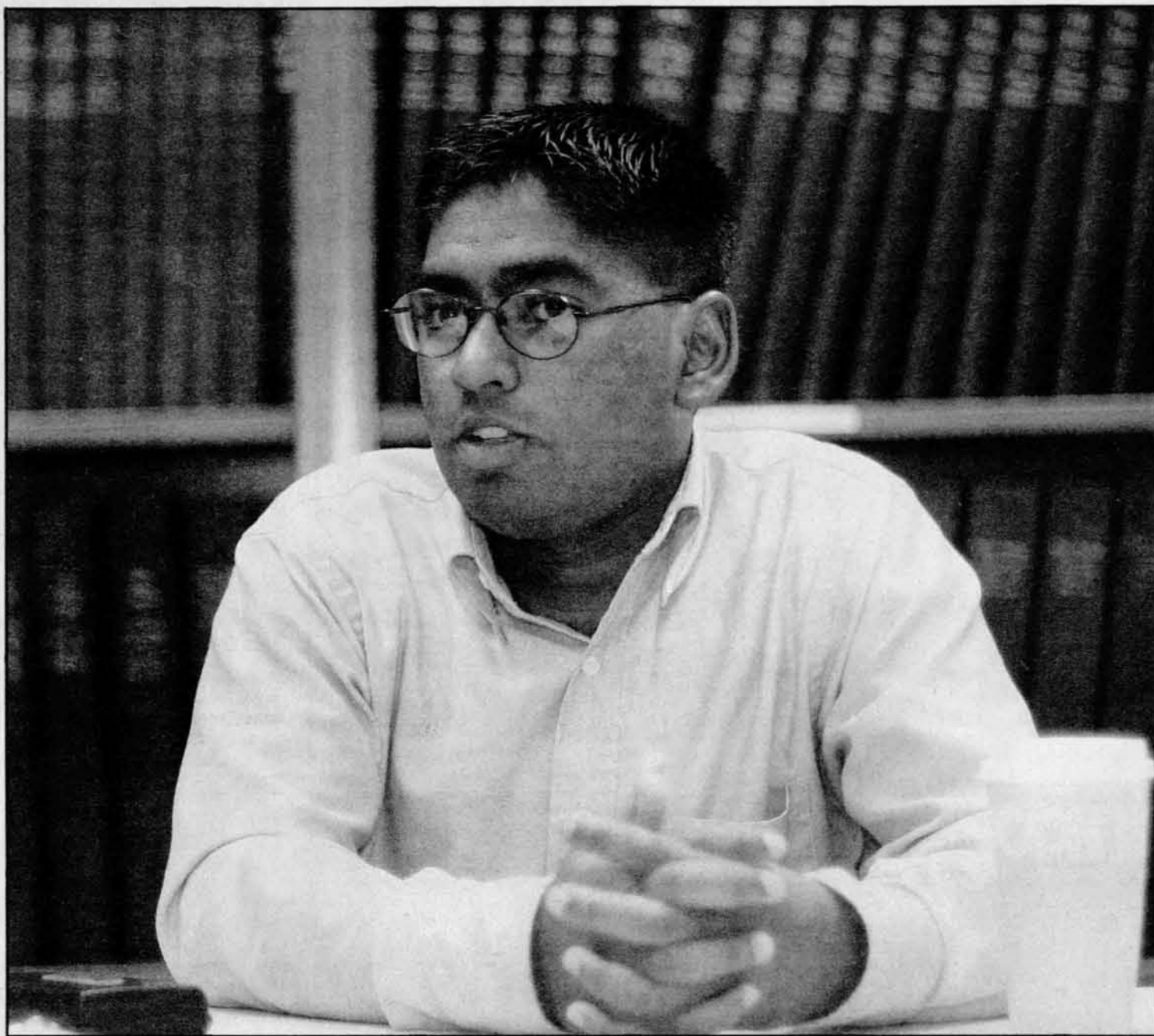
Then we have the activities side, and that's an area in which the GSC and graduate students would like to see increased activity, to develop a sense of community that we hope, and can ensure, will be something favorable towards MIT.

The other thing is that graduate students are really interested in meeting other people, and this comes into play in areas like entrepreneurial activities, seeing who is out there, what other ideas are available, and exchanging ideas. We have started community building more on a social level with large events like Hacklink. This year we would like to see more

*"What we'd like to see are programs that actively link current students with international students..."* —  
**Dilan A. Seneviratne,**  
**GSC President-Elect**

departmental-based activities and also cross-departmental events; for example, things like the Materials Science and Chemical Engineering departments joining together to organize events such as a seminar series, and have graduate students actually participate. We'd like to build these kinds of networks between departments across campus, and then have the "normal" big social events that bring people together. So one of the priorities is building a sense of community. This has been started before, and we would like to continue it.

We're looking for interaction at an academic, professional level and also at a social level. And for that, we would like to see increased funding, given the large number of requests we've had for funding from graduate student groups. We're also looking at services that students get on campus. One thing that we have been working hard on for the past year is career services. For example, we've worked with the UA/GSC



SEPHIR HAMILTON—THE TECH

## GSC President-Elect Dilan A. Seneviratne

Strategic Capital Planning Committee, and this was one of the eight top priorities of students. Another priority was improving the International Student Office and the amount of programs that international students have that integrate them into society.

What we'd like to see in the initial six months are programs that actively link current students with international students and help mentor these students, and this is a program we can expand for all incoming graduate students, like mentoring of junior students by senior students. To build up this program we need administrative support, and we need administrative resources so that there's continuity. Something which also relates to student services is counseling and support services. There has been a push over the past year to keep up the effort to make sure that we have a decent system for students to go get help in case they need it.

**The Tech:** You mentioned rent levels. How will you be working to keep graduate rents low, particularly in terms of the rent of building NW30 (a warehouse currently being converted into a graduate dormitory)?

**Seneviratne:** One thing that is very positive is that the administration is listening to students. For example, when they fixed the rent for NW30 a few weeks ago and it turned out fairly high, we were able to convince them to look at issues they wouldn't normally look at.

Generally when you have a building, you're looking at more of the financial structure and how do you pay it back, but we can raise issues about the cost of living, what students get in terms of stipends, and take those issues into account in their revenue model. In terms of keeping rents low, we understand

the need for the cost involved in maintaining buildings. However, the rents that they fix should be competitive in the student market. In terms of housing that students cannot afford, it would be a real shame if we have new buildings but these buildings are empty.

**The Tech:** What does the GSC see as an acceptable rent for NW30?

**Seneviratne:** For NW30, something on the order of \$700 to \$750 would be decent.

**The Tech:** What kind of new projects can we expect during your term in office?

**Seneviratne:** One will be a research expo at MIT. The idea is to bring together the top research at MIT in a two- or three-day event. It would be presented by different groups, graduate students, and faculty in one setting, which will enable students (UROP students, incoming graduate students, other faculty, alumni, and companies) to come and see what's going on at MIT, exchange ideas, and see how the research at MIT affects society. That's something new that we're very excited about. It doesn't happen at MIT in a very comprehensive manner.

I'm also very keen on working on the Council on Educational Technology Alumni Engagement Project, which was a joint proposal between the UA and GSC. This will involve bringing alumni to partici-

of students, faculty, and alumni, and linking the three groups through this. I think that will be really interesting and a different approach.

**The Tech:** You've talked about getting more funding from the

*"Simply from our communication line, I don't see a need for unionization right now."*  
—**Dilan A. Seneviratne,**  
**GSC President-Elect**

administration for activities.

**Seneviratne:** Yes, it will involve educating the administrators and the faculty about graduate student needs. These needs have been and are always changing. They evolve all the time.

What was true in the past isn't going to be true in the future. Students like to go out and to meet other people to exchange ideas. There's also a disparity in the funding that graduate students get compared to the undergraduate student groups. We can show the administration that there is more activity needed to develop programs that are genuinely productive and show results. For example, we have Techlink, which runs Lablink. These programs involve costs, but the results are there. We have people, like Sloan students, going into different sectors of technology. A lab that caters to that, meets graduate students' needs, sees the current technology and where it is heading, builds contact.

**The Tech:** Can you describe your goal to work on getting medical and dental benefits for graduate students?

**Seneviratne:** Let's start off with the dental insurance. At the moment graduate students don't have any

plan that they can sign up for. However, we've been working with the Vice President of Human Resources, Laura Avakian, and the provost. The benefits program has been paying off over time, and now is the right time to bring in a greater number of people. We have to look at how this can be implemented, how students can participate in it, and what could be the subsidy the Institute provides. On the medical side, it's an issue of having medical expenses covered by the tuition and paid by the faculty out of the research funds. We have to make a case for it, and look at what

other competitive schools like Stanford, Cornell, Carnegie Mellon, Harvard University and other competing engineering universities like UC-Berkeley and Northwestern offer. It is also a case for faculty. If they want to keep getting the best undergraduates, they have to attract students. Now students look at what their benefits are in terms of their buying power, their cost of living, and the quality of their student life on top of research.

**The Tech:** There was a recent court ruling relating to the unionization of graduate students. What is your stance on this issue?

**Seneviratne:** The ruling just happened about three or four months ago. We are just looking to see how it works, if it is effective, and if there is a need to unionize right now. We currently have a great relationship with administrators like Dean Larry Benedict, Chancellor Larry Bacow, and Dean Ike Colbert. We are in a position where we can make our cases and they actually respond. That's very positive. Simply from our communication line, I don't see a need for unionization right now. On the other hand, how would unionization affect students? We can inform students what the consequences would be and of what would happen. It shouldn't be an overnight process.

*"What was true in the past isn't going to be true in the future. Students like to go out and to meet other people...."*  
—**Dilan A. Seneviratne,**  
**GSC President-Elect**

pate in existing projects. We see this as a critical part in integrating the educational research and community experience at MIT. This will involve using an extensive database



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## SCOREBOARD



### 100-meter

6 Adeline Kuo 13.46t 12.90F [PR] \*\*

### 100-meter hurdles

6 Chinwe Nyenke 17.03t 17.00F [PRx2] \*\*

### 200-meter

9 Adeline Kuo 28.26

### 400-meter

11 Kim Seluga 64.54 [PR]  
12 Monica Morrison 66.19 [PR]  
15 Cheetah Obi 68.04

### 400-meter hurdles

10 Chinwe Nyenke 76.10

### 800-meter

2 Chi-An Wang 2:20.80 \*\*  
6 Sarah Cotton 2:27.45 [PR,RR]

### 1500-meter

4 Martha Buckley 4:58.68 [PR] \*\*  
7 Sarah Perlmutter 5:19.40  
17 Elina Groberman 6:13.83 [PR]

### 3000-meter

1 Martha Buckley 10:47.57 [PR] \*\*  
4 Katie Huffman 11:37.43 [PR]  
5 Sarah Perlmutter 11:53.98 [PR]

### 5000-meter

6 Marissa Yates 20:17.88 [PR]  
11 Helen Huang 22:09.86 [PR]  
13 Sharon Cohen 26:27.36 [PR]

### 10K

3 Melanie Harris 42:09.25 [PR] \*  
5 Julie Pinkston 48:08.00 [PR]

6 Kate Wasserman 49:54.23 [PR]  
7 Grace Nam 52:28.03 [PR]

### Hammer Throw

1 Princess Imoukhuede 141-2 \*\*\*  
4 Monica Morrison 115-3 [PR]  
5 J. Buseman-Williams 111-11  
8 Crystal Ray 103-5

### Discus Throw

1 Princess Imoukhuede 111-3 [PR] \*\*  
4 Miquela Vigil 99-10 [PR]  
6 Crystal Ray 94-3  
16 Monica Morrison 65-6

### Javelin Throw

8 Crystal Ray 88-7 [PR]  
12 Monica Morrison 76-8 [PR]  
14 Helen Huang 65-10 [PR]  
17 J. Buseman-Williams 61-3

### Shotput

2 Princess Imoukhuede 40-0 1/2 \*\*\*  
8 Miquela Vigil 31-11 1/2

### High Jump

7 Kathryn Duffy 4-9 [PR]

### Pole Vault

5 Catherine Tweedie 8-6 \*

### Long Jump

8 Clarissa Smith 15-0 3/4  
10 Chinwe Nyenke 14-5 3/4  
12 Melanie Miller 14-3 3/4

### Triple Jump

2 Chinwe Nyenke 34-10 1/4 \*\*  
10 Clarissa Smith 31-3 1/4 [PR]

### 4x100-meter relay

3 MIT 52.63  
(Adeline Kuo, Melanie Miller, Chinwe Nyenke, Clarissa Smith)

### 4x400-meter relay

6 MIT 4:32.94  
(Adeline Kuo, Chi-An Wang, Sarah Cotton, Katie Huffman)

### TEAM SCORES:

1 Wheaton 247 1/2  
2 MIT 132 1/2  
3 Springfield 107  
4 Mt. Holyoke 88  
5 WPI 66 1/2  
6 Coast Guard 62 1/2  
7 Smith 51  
8 Babson 18

### STATS:

26 new PRs, 113 season to date  
0 new VRs, 2 season to date  
0 new TBs, 6 season to date  
2 new NE Div. III, 19 season to date  
4 new ECAC, 17 season to date  
1 new All NE, 3 season to date  
0 new NCAA provisional, 0 season to date  
0 new NCAA automatic, 0 season to date

### CODE:

PR = Personal record (outdoors)  
VR = Varsity record  
RR = Rookie record  
\* = NE Div. III qualifier  
\*\* = ECAC qualifier  
\*\*\* = All NE qualifier  
\*\*\*\* = NCAA qualifier (provisional)  
\*\*\*\*\* = (automatic) National qualifier  
TB = Team best <relays 2001>

## Throwers Strong In Finish

Track, from Page 28

outstanding contribution to MIT's finish. Princess Imoukhuede '02 led the team with first place finishes in both the hammer and the discus, and a 2nd place finish in the shotput. Her hammer and shotput throws earned her a trip to the All New England Championships, while her personal record in the discus qualified her for ECACs.

Monica F. Morrison '04 placed 4th as she threw a significant personal record with a throw of 115' 3". Morrison's throw was just 1.5 feet short of the rookie record. Close behind Morrison was Janine Buseman-Williams '01. Miquela C. Vigil '03 also gave outstanding performances for the day by taking eighth in the shotput and claiming fourth in the discus in a personal record throw of 99' 10".

The 4x100m relay, consisting of Kuo, Melanie A. Miller '04, Nyenke, and Smith, placed third, very close behind Springfield. To end the meet, the 4x400m relay with Kuo, Wang, Cotton, and Huffman finished in fifth.

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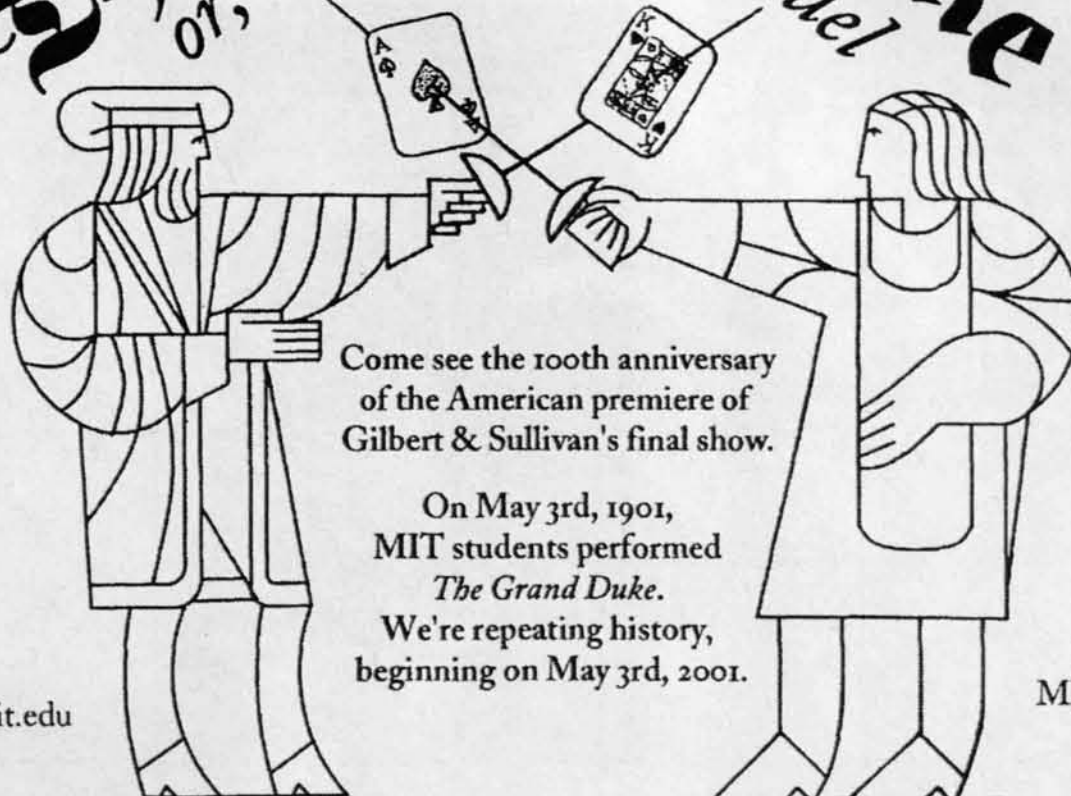
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## SPORTS

## Women's Track Finishes Second at NEWMAC Meet

Impressive Performances in Several Events Help Track and Field Team to 11-2 Regular-Season Record

By Adeline Kuo  
TEAM CO-CAPTAIN

This past Saturday, the women's track team once again exhibited strength at the NEWMAC championships, as MIT (132.5) took second to Wheaton (247.5) and defeated Springfield (107), Mt. Holyoke (88), WPI (66.5), Coast Guard (62.5), Smith (51), and Babson (18), for a regular season finish of 11 wins and 2 losses.

First on the track was the 10K, where Melanie L. Harris '01 led MIT to a third place finish in a personal record and New England Division III Championship qualifying time of 42:09.25.

Julie M. Pinkston '04 followed in fifth, running a personal record time of 48:08.00. Right behind Pinkston were Kathryn S. Wasserman '04 and Grace Nam '01. Wasserman and Nam both finished in personal record times of 49:54.23 and 52:28.03 respectively.

Following the 10K was the 5K,

where Marissa L. Yates '03 took sixth place in a personal record time of 20:17.88. The 10K and 5K distance events contributed 18 points to MIT's scoring.

MIT also racked up the team points in the 1500-meter. Frosh distance star Martha W. Buckley '04 took fourth in a personal record and Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference qualifying time of 4:58.68. Sarah K. Perlmutter '02 took seventh with 5:19.40.

Both Buckley and Perlmutter returned in the 3000-meter, along with Kathleen R. Huffman '04, where Buckley won in a personal record and ECAC qualifying time of 10:47.57. Huffman and Perlmutter also set personal record with their respective fourth place finish in 11:37.43 and fifth in 11:53.98.

MIT had two outstanding sixth place finishes in the dash and hurdles, both in ECAC qualifying times. In the 100-meter dash, Adeline L. Kuo '02 took nearly half a second off her personal record, running in 12.90 seconds. In the 100-meter hurdles,



MARISSA YATES—THE TECH

Chinwe P. Nyenke '04 sails through the air in the triple jump at the NEWMAC Championship this Saturday. She won second place with a jump of 34 feet 10.25 inches and contributed to the women's track team's second place finish.

Chinwe P. Nyenke '04 also knocked down her time significantly for a 17.00-second personal record.

The 800-meter runners also dazzled the fans. Chi-An Wang '01 ran an excellent second place effort in an ECAC qualifying time of 2:20.80. Sarah E. Cotton '04, running in the unseeded heat, blew away her competitors to take sixth in a rookie record time of 2:27.45.

In the jumps, Nyenke once again exhibited her great talents in the triple jump, as she leaped to a second place finish for a distance of 34'10 1/4".

In the long jump, despite suffering from injuries, Clarissa Y. Smith '04 was able to fly to an eighth place finish with a 15' 3/4" leap. Kathryn M. Duffy '04 soared to a 4'9" high jump and seventh place finish. Catherine A. Tweedie '04 pole vaulted 8'6" to finish in fifth despite having a dozen stitches in her leg.

The MIT throwers also made an

Track, Page 27



MARISSA YATES—THE TECH

Jeff Billings '01 pitches in his last MIT baseball game. The team lost 7-1 to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in the NEWMAC quarterfinals last Thursday.

## UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Wednesday, May 2

Men's Tennis vs. Bates College, 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 5

Heavyweight Crew, Cochrane Cup

Women's Crew vs. BU and Radcliffe

Men's Tennis vs. Williams College, 1:00 p.m.

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MARISSA YATES—THE TECH

Marc R. Washington '03 and Rick F. Rajter '03 sprint in the men's 200m at WPI this Saturday. The MIT men's track team brought home the cup from the NEWMAC Championships this Saturday.